LYNCHING RECORD 1932

According to records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute there were 8 persons lynched in the United States in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 193o; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances,armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 Negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were Negro. The offenses charged were: murder,1; attempted murder,1; rape,1; attempted rape,1; wounding officer of the law,1; dynamiting store,1; insulting women,1; threatening men with knife,1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas,1; Florida,1; Kansas,1; Kentucky,1;/Louisiana,1; Ohio,1; Texas,1; Virginia,1.

COMPILED BY MONROE N, WORK,DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF RECORDS AND RESEARCH
TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA.

Lynchings-1932
Associated Negro Press

3600

WHAT IS REALLY A LYNCHING? IS HARD TO DEFINE

Journal and Guide

12-31-32

Figures For 1932 Vary According To Classification Made

Norfolk Va.

By ASSOCIATED NEGRO PRESS

How many lynchings have there been in 1932? The Associated Negro Press records 11 up to December 20. At that time, Communist sources had announced the number as 35. Differences exist between the totals issued by Tuskegee Institute's department of records and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People which reports 11.

For purposes of record, there is no settled rule for defining a lynching, or even a mob. Three persons were shot down by a mob (posse) seeking a fugitive at Senatobia, Miss. Were they lynched? The Associated Negro Press does not include them in its totals. In some cases, lynchings, fights, murders, and slaughters are closely related. Our loose rule has been to define as lynching any death to an individual or individuals inflicted by two or more privately organized citizens, who impose such violence with correctional intent. Our records include the following:

List of Victims

1. Richard Read, white, taken from jail by a mob and hanged near Atwood, Kansas. Arrested for raping an eight-year-old white girl.

2. Willie Burns, shot a deputy sheriff near Forrest City, Ark.; trailed, cornered by a posse, and shot by Jewett Powell, white private citizen, who was a member of the posse.

3. David Tillis, for an alleged insult to a white woman was seized and hanged to a tree eighteen miles from Crockett, Texas.

4. Walter Merrick, white, held in jail for dynamiting at Princeton, Ky., was taken from his cell by a mob of masked men and hanged.

5. Henry Woods, shot and killed by a posse of private citizens at Jasper, Fla., after he was alleged to have slain the police chief of that town.

6. Luke Murray, arrested after a dispute with some white men, was seized from the jail at South Point, Ohio, and spirited away. His body was later found in the Ohio River.

7. Charles Miller, was shot to death at Opelika, Ala., by a posse of private citizens after he was alleged to have shot and killed W. S. Jones, sheriff [illegible]

8. Frank Tucker, taken from the jail at Crossett, Ark., and hanged in the courtyard by a mob of 500 persons after he was alleged to have slashed the throat of a deputy.

9. Ralph Horton, of Boone, N. C., slain by a posse which sought him for shooting a deputy sheriff.

10. Shadrack Thompson, found dangling from a tree near Markham, Va., after he had been sought for several days for an alleged attack on an aged white woman.

11. William House, of Wisner, La., was taken from officers by a mob of 15 men, shot, hanged to a tree for an alleged insult to two white women.

Anti-Lynching Crusades

Two significant moves against the lynching evil were made during the year. The Commission on Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches enlisted in a more intensive crusade against lynching with the intention of establishing a race relations committee in every community having a Negro population and the proposal to study every lynching by sending an expert to study the causes and circumstances.

Later in the year, the Association of Southern (white) Women opposed to lynching met in Atlanta and endorsed a drive for a lynchless 1933.

Lynching Damage Suits

In the autumn political campaign, a judgment of $2,000 awarded under a state statute to a woman for the death of her husband who was lynched in South Carolina became a political issue when the attorney who had helped her secure the judgment, a candidate for office, was attacked on those grounds. The judgment has not been paid.

Lynchings-1932
Cases of.

Arkansas.

3602

24-YEAR-OLD NEGRO LYNCHED IN ARKANSAS.

Constitution
9-17-32
Atlanta Ga.

CROSSETT, Ark., Sept. 16.—(AP)—A negro accused of stealing a $10 bill was taken from jail by a mob, lynched and his body left dangling from a pole in the business section here yesterday a few minutes after he slashed the throat of a guard in an attempt to escape.

The negro, Frank Tucker, 24, arrested on a charge of trying to steal from a bank teller's window, was under guard by Deputy Sheriff Henry Reed, 39, in a room of the city hall awaiting hearing when he whipped out a razor and demanded the guard's gun.

Reed tried to draw his weapon but the negro slashed at his throat, inflicting a long cut, and ran out of the building. He was captured by bystanders after a short chase and turned over to night Marshal H. Johnson who placed him in jail.

The wounded deputy was placed in a hospital where slight hope for his recovery was held. As word of the attack spread, an angry crowd quickly gathered about the jail. Suddenly a group left the main crowd, overpowered Johnson, took the keys from him and dragged Tucker from his cell

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NEGRO HANGED AFTER ATTACK ON OFFICIAL

Commercial Appeal

Taken From Jail At Crossett By Group of Men

9-16-32

SLASHED DEPUTY'S THROAT

Memphis Tenn

Attacked Officer While Waiting Hearing On Larceny Charge—Lynched Near Center of Business District.

By The Associated Press.

CROSSETT, Ark., Sept. 15.—Frank Tucker, 24-year-old negro, was taken from jail and hanged to a light pole near the center of the business district here today after he had slashed the throat of Deputy Sheriff Henry Reed, 39, while awaiting a hearing on a larceny charge.

Reed was in a hospital tonight with only a slight hope held for his recovery.

Tucker, with another negro, Tommy Wells, was being guarded in a room at the city hall by Deputy Reed when Tucker suddenly drew a razor from his pocket and demanded the officer's gun.

Inflicts Long Cut.

Reed attempted to draw his gun and the negro slashed at his throat, inflicting a long cut.

Tucker ran from the building but was closely pursued by a group of men standing about the halls and was caught after a chase of a few blocks.

This group turned Tucker over to Night Marshal H. Johnson, who placed the negro in the city jail. Word of the attack spread quickly over the town and an angry crowd collected around the jail in a few minutes. Mutterings against the negro were heard and suddenly a group detached itself from the crowd and overpowered Johnson, taking the keys of the jail from him.

The men took Tucker from his cell and hanged him to a pole directly in front of the jail, which is only a half block from the town's principal street.

Lynched for Slashing Guard

Norfolk Va
Ledger-Dispatch
9-16-32

Crossett, Ark., Sept. 16—(AP)—A Negro accused of stealing a $10 bill was taken from jail, lynched and his body left dangling from a pole in the business section here yesterday a few minutes after he slashed the throat of a guard in an attempt to escape.

NEW YORK
NEWS

SEP 17 1932

MOB LYNCHES SUSPECT WHO KNIFED GUARD

Crosett, Ark., Sept. 16 (AP).—A colored man accused of stealing a $10 bill and critically wounding a deputy sheriff was taken from jail, lynched and his body left dangling from a pole in the business section here yesterday a few minutes after he slashed the throat of a guard in an attempt to escape.

The prisoner, Frank Tucker, 24, arrested on a charge of trying to steal from a bank teller's window, was under guard of Deputy Sheriff Henry Reed, 39, in the City Hall awaiting hearing when he whipped out a razor and demanded the guard's gun.

Reed tried to draw his weapon, but Tucker slashed at his throat, inflicting a long cut, and ran out of the building. He was captured by bystanders and placed in jail. Reed was taken to a hospital, where only slight hope for his recovery was held.

A mob of 1,000 quickly gathered about the jail, overpowered the keeper, dragged Tucker from his cell and hanged him directly in front of the jail.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK.
DEMOCRAT

SEP 16 1932

Negro Lynched After Attack On Officer

Seized and Hanged by Crossett Mob—Deputy Sheriff May Die.

Crossett, Sept. 16.—(AP)—A negro accused of stealing a $10 bill was taken from jail, lynched and his body left dangling from a pole in the business section here yesterday a few minutes after he slashed the throat of a guard in an attempt to escape.

The negro, Frank Tucker, aged 24, arrested on a charge of trying to steal from a bank teller's window, was under guard by Deputy Sheriff Henry Reed, aged 39, in a room of the city hall awaiting a hearing when he whipped out a razor and demanded the guard's gun.

Reed tried to draw his weapon but the negro slashed at his throat, inflicting a long cut, and ran out of the building. He was captured by bystanders after a short chase and turned over to Night Marshal H. Johnson who placed him in jail.

The wounded deputy was placed in a hospital where only slight hope for his recovery was held. As word of the attack spread, an angry crowd quickly gathered about the jail. A group over-powered Johnson, took the keys from him and dragged Tucker from his cell.

The negro was hanged directly in front of the jail less than half a block from the town's main street. Sheriff John C. Riley, arriving from his home at Hamburg, 14 miles away, found the body swinging from a pole, with a crowd he estimated at 1,000 standing about.

He cut down the body and offered a reward of $100 for the arrest and conviction of mob members but he said he was unable to learn the names of any involved.

The lynching, which occurred about 5 p. m. is said to have been the first ever to occur in Crossett. The scene is about 300 yards from the home of the negro's father. Tucker was a lumber mill employe and never had been in serious trouble before.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK.
GAZETTE

SEP 16 1932

NEGRO LYNCHED BY MOB AT CROSSETT

Crowd of 500 Witnesses Spectacle in Ashley County Jail Yard.

HAD ATTACKED OFFICER

Deputy City Marshal Henry Reed Slashed With Razor and Is in Critical Condition.

Special to the Gazette.

Crossett, Sept. 15.—Frank Tucker, Negro, aged 24, was hanged by a mob of approximately 500 persons in the Ashley county jail yard here shortly after 6 tonight after the Negro had attacked Deputy City Marshal Henry Reed, 45, and slashed his throat with a razor. The officer was in a serious condition at a Crossett hospital tonight.

Tucker was under arrest in connection with the theft of 10 silver dollars from the Bank of Crossett. He was being held in the office of Mayor I. M. Barnes with another Negro, Tommy Wells, also a suspect in the theft. Officer Reed was seated on a chair between the two.

Presently Tucker arose, stepped toward Marshal Reed and demanded that the officer hand over his pistol. As the officer turned to face the Negro, Tucker slashed him with a razor. The Negro had been searched, but no weapons had been found.

Tucker then ran out the front door. Several persons on the street started in pursuit. The crowd grew rapidly. Tucker was captured about four blocks from the mayor's office.

Led Through Business District.

A rope was tied around the Negro's neck. He was led through the business section of Crossett and to the yard of the Ashley county jail. Hundreds of persons witnessed the spectacle. There were approximately 500 persons in the jail yard when the lynching occurred. One end of the rope was thrown over an iron pipe within 12 inches of the jail, and the Negro was hoisted about 20 or 25 feet from the ground.

The body was left dangling to the end of the rope 46 minutes, until Sheriff John Riley arrived and cut it down. The sheriff was out of town when the lynching took place.

Soon after Sheriff Riley cut the body down, the crowd began to disperse, and within an hour or two the city presented a normal appearance.

The mayor's office, where the attack on the officer occurred, is in the center of the business section and directly across the street from the postoffice.

This was said to have been the first lynching in Crossett.

The scene of the lynching was about 300 yards from the home of the victim's father. The body was taken there after it was cut down. No coroner's investigation had been conducted tonight. Neither had there been any arrests.

The condition of Marshal Reed was said at the hospital tonight to be critical. The jugular vein was severed, but the razor blade did not touch the artery. Opiates were administered soon after he reached the hospital, and late tonight attendants said he was resting comfortably.

Marshal Reed has lived in Crossett about eight years, and has been a peace officer three years. He is well and favorably known among the business men of the city. He has a wife and two sons.

Tucker had lived here practically all his life. He was a lumber mill employe. Officers said tonight he never had been in serious trouble before.

Arkansas In Lead In Lynching League

Journal & Guide

CROSSETT, Ark.—Frank Tucker, 24, was taken from jail here, lynched, and his body left dangling from a pole in the business section Thursday of last week a few minutes after he slashed the throat of a guard during an attempted escape.

Tucker was in jail on a charge of trying to steal $10 from a bank teller's window. Deputy Sheriff Henry Reed, 39, was the guard slashed by Tucker.

9-24-32

The mob "overpowered" Night Marshal H. Johnson, took his cell keys, and dragged Tucker to the pole, which was directly in front of the jail and half a block from the town's main street. A crowd of 1,000 stood about when the sheriff arrived. No arrests of mob members have been made.

Norfolk Va

The lynching was the 8th for the year and the second in 1932 for Arkansas. Two of the lynch victims were white.

500 TAKE PART IN CRIME

9-24-32

Pittsburgh Pa.

Retire From Scene and Go Home to Dinner — Interracial Commission Demands Investigation—Police Know Everything But "Who Did It."

CROSSETT, Ark., Sept. 22—Five hundred bloodthirsty white hoodlums lynched 24-year-old Frank Tucker in the jail yard here last Friday, then nonchalantly washed their gory hands and went home to dinner, leaving the young man's body dangling in the air. Thus the lynch record of the "land of the free and home of the brave" was swelled to the tune of three within the last two weeks. The second lynching of the trio occurred in Warrenton, Va., the same day when Shadrock Thompson was hung from a tree, because of an alleged attack on a white couple. Tucker was accused of slashing the throat of a white guard, who had arrested him for an alleged attempt to steal $10 from a bank teller's window.

The lynching of Tucker was one of those quickly assembled "human barbecues" for which some parts of the south [illegible] famous. Tucker was lynched "a few minutes after he attacked the guard," the story goes. He has been arrested and stood in the city [illegible] awaiting hearing, when he [illegible] out a razor and demanded the guard's gun, police say. The guard tried to draw his gun, but Tucker slashed at his throat inflicting a long gash, from which he will recover. He rushed to the street, but was captured by bystanders and placed in jail. In a few moments a mob had gathered and the brutal crime was perpetrated. The jail keeper gave the usual explanation of being "overpowered" by the mob and forced to give up the prisoner.

The Interracial Commission, from its offices in Atlanta, telegraphed Governor Harvey Purnell, governor of Arkansas, a telegram of rebuke and regret anent the brutal lynching. The telegram which was signed by Director Will Alexander and R. H. King, chairman of the executive committee, said:

"On behalf of a large constituency of Southern men and women, we wish to express regret that an Arkansas community has contemptuously cast aside the machinery of civilization and law and reverted to the jungle method of anarchy and private vengeance in dealing with a desperate criminal. It is obvious that this community,

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Two Men Lynched By Mobs In Virginia And Arkansas

Age

9-24-32

New York, N.Y.

CROSETT Ark.—A few minutes after he made an unsuccessful attempt to escape from jail and had slashed the throat of a guard who was in the way, Frank Tucker, 24, Negro, was taken from jail, lynched and his body left dangling from a pole in the business section here.

The prisoner, arrested on a charge of trying to steal $10 from a bank teller's window, was under guard of Deputy Sheriff Henry Reed, 39, in the City Hall awaiting hearing when he made his attempt to escape. He was captured by bystanders and placed in jail while Reed who was slashed was rushed to the hospital.

A few minutes later a mob of 1,000 quickly gathered about the jail, overpowered the keeper, dragged Tucker from his cell and hanged him directly in front of the jail.

Lynchings. 1932

Florida

3603

3603

Cases of

Victim of Mob Had Stolen Furs

Telegraph

Negro Lynched in Florida Suspected of Georgia Robbery

6-10-32

VALDOSTA, Ga., June 9.—Henry Woods, Negro, killed and burned at the stake near Jasper, Fla., south of Valdosta on Monday afternoon, is believed to have been the leader of, or connected with, the band of robbers who entered a local dry cleaning plant 10 days ago and stole seal skin coats and furs valued at several thousand dollars.

Macon Ga.

After Woods had been killed by an arresting posse and later his body placed upon a funeral pyre, officers began collecting the loose ends of the case, and it was found that the Negro had in his possession a crocus sack containing one seal skin coat and several valuable fur pieces which have been identified as being stolen from the Valdosta concern, and it is now believed that Woods wore when killed and burned, a pair of pants also stolen from the Valdosta establishment.

Policeman Fowler, of Jasper, Fla., arrested the Negro Friday afternoon on a criminal charge, and while placing handcuffs on him the Negro grabbed the officer's pistol and shot him down.

Negro Is Lynched By Mob in Florida

6-10-32

JASPER, Fla.—A mob of north Florida citizens near here Tuesday, June 7, shot and killed Henry Woods for the murder of Ira E. Flowers, police chief here last Friday, June 3.

Kansas City Call

After his body had been riddled with bullets it was burned near the scene of the murder of the policeman.

Florida Negro Lynched for Slaying Policeman

Chicago Tribune

Jasper, Fla., June 7.—[Special.]—Henry Woods, Negro, was shot and killed by a posse of north Florida citizens near here for the murder last Friday of Ira E. Fowler, Jasper police chief. After his body had been riddled with bullets it was burned near the scene of the murder of the policeman.

6/8/32

FLORIDA MOB BURNS MAN

Afro American

JASPER, Fla.—Henry Woods was shot and killed by a posse of whites of north Florida citizens near here for the murder last Friday of Ira E. Fowler, white. Jasper police chief.

After his body had been riddled with bullets it was burned near the scene of the murder of the policeman.

6-18-32

STANDING IN THE LYNCH LEAGUE, 1932

Baltimore, Md.

Texas	1
Kansas	1
Kentucky	1
Virginia	0
North Carolina	0
South Carolina	0
Georgia	0
Florida	1
Alabama	0
Tennessee	0
Mississippi	0
Arkansas	0
Louisiana	0
Oklahoma	0
Missouri	0
Indiana	0
Maryland	0
West Virginia	0
Total	4

Lynchings- 1932
Cases of.

General

3601

4 ORGANIZATIONS DISAGREE ON 1932 LYNCHING NUMBER

1-6-33

Washington

Tuskegee Lists 8 While League of Struggle Reports 37

Just how many persons were lynched in the United States in 1932 remains a conjecture as four organizations have sent out three different set of figures.

The Associated Negro Press and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People agree that 11 were lynched. The League of Struggle for Negro Rights recorded 37, while Tuskegee Institute, regarded as official, has compiled a list of eight deaths from mob violence.

The wide margin between the 37 reported by the league and the 8 recorded by Tuskegee is the result of the difference in the definition of a lynching.

League Definition

The league considers as lynchings all cases in which persons were killed by shooting, hanging, burning or drowning at the hands of organized groups.

The A.N.P. defines a lynching as any death inflicted by two or more privately organized citizens who impose such violence with correctional intent. Thus, the league includes the deaths of three persons who were shot down by a mob seeking a fugitive at Senatobia, Miss., as a lynching. The A.N.P. and the N.A.A.C.P. do not, as no punishment was meant to be meted out.

Agree on Eight

The A.N.P. and the N.A.A.C.P. agree upon the names of eight lynched persons, but the list of each includes three names which do not appear on the list of the other.

The eight lynchings agreed upon are those of:

David Tillis, held for an alleged insult of a white woman, who was seized and hanged to a tree April, 18 miles from Crockett, Texas.

Richard Reed, white, who was taken from jail by a mob and [illegible] to a tree, April 13, at St. [illegible] He had been arrested for raping an eight-year-old girl.

Walter Merrick, white, held in jail for dynamiting at Princeton, Ky., who was taken from his cell, May 31, and hanged by a mob of masked men.

Luke Murray, arrested after a dispute with some white men, who was seized in jail at South Point, Ohio, and spirited away. His body was found June 7, in the Ohio River at Ironton.

Henry Woods, who was shot and killed by a posse of private citizens at Jasper, Fla., June 7, after he was alleged to have slain the police chief of the town.

Frank Tucker, who was taken from jail at Crossett, Ark., Sept. 16, and hanged in the courtyard by a mob of 500 persons after he was alleged to have slashed the throat of a deputy.

Shadrock Thompson, who was found dangling from a tree near Markham, Va., September 16, after he had been sought for several days for an alleged attack on an aged white woman.

William House, who was taken November 19, from officers at Wisner, La., by a mob of 15 men, shot and hanged to a tree for an alleged insult to two white women.

Differ on Three

The three persons that the A.N.P. reports as lynched but whom the N.A.A.C.P. does not include are:

Willie Burns, of Forrest City, Ark., who was trailed and caught by a posse after he had shot a deputy sheriff and who was killed by Jewett Powell, white private citizen, a member of the posse.

Charles Miller, of Opelika, Ala. who was shot to death by a posse of private citizens after he was alleged to have shot and killed W. S. Jones, sheriff of Lee county.

Ralph Horton, at Boone, N.C., who was slain by a posse which sought him for shooting a deputy sheriff.

Those cases which the N. A.A.C.P. includes in its report, but which the A.N.P., does not include are those of:

An aged Negro (name unknown) whose body was found in February in a pond of Brooksville, Fla.

Henry Russell, killed June 7, in Newton, Ga.

Henry Campbell, killed in November, in Mullins, S.C.

Additional Cases

The League of Struggle for Negro Rights reports all of the cases reported by the other organizations with these additional ones:

Joseph Kahahawai, shot in Honolulu in January; Cap Johnson, shot and drowned in Brooksville, Fla., in February; two unknown persons hanged in Brooksville, Fla., in February; Percy Berry, beaten and drowned in New Bern, S.C., in April; unknown person shot in Forrest City, Ark, in May; Richard Baker, beaten to death in Gaffney, S.C., in June; Judge Crawford, his wife, three sons, a daughter and a son-in-law shot at Senatobia, Miss., in November; George Green, shot in Gretnaville, Miss., in November; Edward Cole, Water

Lynchings-1932
6

3604

Kansas

Cases of.

Lynching In Kansas

Telegraph
4-19-32

A mob of Kansas farmers took Richard Read, a white man, 53 years old, out of jail at St. Francis, and hanged him. He had confessed to abducting, assaulting and killing an eight-year old girl.

The fact that he was loose upon society is an indictment of its method, or lack of method, of handling abnormal persons. Read had been convicted of the crime of assault before, in Colorado. He had served a term in jail and had been released. Under our theory of punishment, all you can do to a degenerate is to put him in jail and punish him. After he gets out of jail, he is a degenerate right on, of course. The state has done nothing to cure him of his disease—and it is a disease—or to render society any safer. All it has done has been to punish him for a crime he has already committed.

It is excusable to allow degenerates to go around loose in society when society does not know it, but when the degeneracy has been known and punished, it is not the fault of the beast at all, but of those who have been stupid enough to follow an obsolete method of dealing with him. The eight-year old girl's death is the fault of a stupid society. The farmers who lynched him were the finest exemplifiers of that stupidity and the sheriff who turned him over to the mob typical of all sheriffs whose prisoners are lynched.

The Kansas farmers had all the provocation in the world to lynch. The crime was atrocious. Yet, if we say that provocation is justification for murder, then provocation must be justification for all murders. Nobody ever kills without some provocation. If we say that, we say that law no longer binds; that anybody is free to kill. Say that and the Kansas farmer has no more protection for his own home and his own family. Anybody who has provocation is free to kill him. We can not have law and lynching. One or the other must break down. The sooner we break down lynching in America, the better will it be for us.

The sheriff knows, of course, who was in the mob. Most sheriffs do. Most of them, too, turn prisoners over to mobs either because they sympathize or because they are too cowardly not to do so. Lynchings are done by men who are too cowardly to do violence except in packs, abetted by sheriffs who are too cowardly to resist them.

Mob Menaces Slayer Of Girl

4-16-32

Sheriff Saves Confessed Killer Of 8-Year-Old Kansas Student

Montgomery

* * *

CO KAN., April 16.—(AP)—After es , he kidnaped and killed Dor- unter, 8-year-old Selden, Kan. girl, Richard Read, 52, was saved mob vengeance today by Sheriff Ed inley, of Thomas County.

Read led a group of officers to the iding place of the violated body of his small victim in a haystack near the neighboring town of Achilles. A moment later McGinley was speeding away from an approaching mob of enraged Selden citizens traveling in 50 motor cars.

After a preliminary examination, Dr. Charles E. Hennenberger, coroner of Rawlins County, said the girl had been attacked and later slain by a blow on the head which caused a skull fracture.

She was kidnaped late Thursday afternoon as she left the school grounds in Selden. She returned to the building for a forgotten lunch kit.

When informed yesterday the girl was missing, Sheriff McGinley immedaitely arrested Read, bachelor-farmer near Rexford. Read, a few hours previously, had reported to the officer that he had been kidnaped and forced to drive his abductors about over the Western Kansas prairie.

The arrest brought a mob of armed citizens from Selden, bearing a rope and demanded the life of Read. They were persuaded to spare the prisoner because he might be able to reveal the missing girl's whereabouts.

The sheriff returned to Colby, refusing to say where he had concealed Read.

McGinley said the prisoner had confessed luring the child into his car with a string of child's beads and then attacking and slaying her.

Court officials at Burlington, Colo., said the prisoner, as T. R. Read, pleaded guilty there in 1916 to assaulting a 15-year-old girl and was sentenced to an indeterminate term in the Colorado Penitentiary.

Probe Ordered In Lynching Of Kansas Slayer

Man Who Attacked And Killed School Girl Is Hanged By Mob

Advertiser
Montgomery
4-19-32

ATWOOD, KAN., April 18.—(AP)—An investigation started personally by Gov. Harry H. Woodring was underway here tonight in an attempt to learn the identity of members of a mob that lynched Richard Read, slayer of eight-year-old Dorothy Hunter.

"Identity unknown" was the verdict of a coroner's jury after a brief inquest.

About 200 men heavily armed, were in the mob that hanged Read from a tree near here early today after taking the confessed kidnaper and attacker of the Selden, Kans., school girl, from the Cheyenne County Jail at St. Francis last night.

Most of the mobsmen presumably were from Selden and vicinity,

Gov. Woodring, who was in Atwood on a speaking tour, directed the State and county authorities to use every means to identify the lynchers and placed Atty. Gen. Roland Boynton in charge of the investigation.

The Governor said he believed the local authorities had used every precaution to protect Read. The lynching was the first in Kansas since 1920.

Sheriff A. A. Bacon of Cheyenne County, who was overpowered by the mob, was automatically ousted from office, under provision of the Kansas mob law, for the loss of his prisoner.

BATTER IN JAIL, DRAG RAPIST TO TREE, HANG HIM

4-18-32
Chicago
Tribune

Ex-Convict Admits Killing Child, 8.

(Picture on back page.)

Saint Francis, Kas., April 18 [Monday].—Sheriff A. A. Bacon of Cheyenne county announced early today that he had been notified by telephone that Richard Read, confessed slayer and rapist of 8 year old Dorothy Hunter of Selden, Kas., had been hanged to a tree by a mob four miles southwest of Atwood, Kas. Read was taken from the Cheyenne county jail after the mob had forced officers to give up the keys.

Bacon said his informant was a member of the mob which abducted Read from the Saint Francis jail.

Tell Coroner to View Body.

A member of the mob also telephoned Dr. Charles E. Hennenberger, Rawlins county coroner at Atwood, to come and view the body. The coroner departed. It was Dr. Hennenberger who Saturday examined the body of the tiny victim and said she had been raped and then killed by a blow which fractured her skull.

Previously the mob had been reported as having passed through McDonald, headed toward Atwood, with the ultimate destination thought to be Selden, home town of the girl.

J. H. Indos, deputy sheriff, said the mob, heavily armed, numbered fifty. He said he gave up the keys when the mob began to batter in the brick walls of the small jail with telephone poles and attacked the cells.

Come Into Town Quickly.

Coming into town quietly in several groups, the mob gathered at the jail. Meeting Indos and other officers, they first sought to obtain the keys without violence. The officers refused. Then the mob began the battering and the officers relinquished the keys.

Indos said he overheard one of the men in the mob say the party was headed for Selden, home town of the girl. This was apparently confirmed when the mob, with Read, passed through McDonald, half way between Saint Francis and Atwood and in the general direction of Selden.

Sheriff Out to Meet Mob.

Sheriff Jennings of Rawlins county, with four deputies, was said by his son, Ralph Jennings, to have headed west to meet the mob, but Read was hanged before the sheriff's party encountered the lynchers.

Sheriff E. McGinley of Colby, twice saved Read from mob vengeance yesterday. He was spirited to a supposedly secret hiding place after he led officers to a haystack where he had concealed the girl's body.

St. Francis is many miles across the Kansas prairie from the scene of the rape and slaying. The girl was slain Friday after Read, an ex-convict, 53 years old, and a farmer bachelor, had lured her into his motor car Thursday evening as she was leaving the Selden schoolhouse.

Served Term in Colorado.

The slain child, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Hunter, was buried in Hoxie, Kas., after the Selden high school auditorium had been crowded for her funeral service. She was one of four children.

After the funeral yesterday groups of men gathered in Selden and debated whether to seek Read's hiding place or let the law take its course. It was reported leading men of the town urged the citizens not to take mob action.

Read was sentenced in 1916 to a term in the Colorado prison for criminal assault on a 15 year old girl.

Delaware Girl Returned.

Philadelphia, Pa., April 17.—[Special.]—Negotiations of a Philadelphia priest and a coroner's physician delivered Hilda Brodsky, 8 years old, from the hands of kidnapers in this city today and restored her to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Brodsky of Wilmington, Del., 54 hours after she had been abducted while walking toward a public school in her home city.

Police denied that Mr. Brodsky, a reputedly well to do hosiery manufacturer and notions dealer, had paid a ransom for the girl's release. The kidnapers had demanded $50,000.

With her return, unharmed, a man hunt was begun in four states for her kidnapers, whose names were said to be known to police. They were believed to be a man and a woman, the former a Philadelphia gangster.

Definite negotiations with the kidnapers were begun early today by the Rev. Joseph Pugliese of the church of St. Mary Magdalen, The priest worked in coöperation with Dr. Arthur Keegan, coroner's physician, who lives in the same neighborhood.

KANSAS MOB RAIDS JAIL TO LYNCH OFAY

Afro-American
4/23/32

ST. FRANCIS, Kan.—The lynching mania which has been allowed to develop to uncontrollable proportions as long as it has been exercised against colored victims overstepped the color line here when a mob of 200 men hanged Richard Read, 53 white, to a tree near Atwood, Monday.

Read, who was accused and later confessed to the kidnapping and slaying of 8-year-old Dorothy Hunter, white, was taken from the sheriff and his deputies after the former had been forcefully relieved of his keys. The mob leaders entered the jail and carried the man five miles through the prairie land until they found a tree. The scene was near that where Chauncey Depew, another white man, had been hanged about twenty years ago.

The man was suspected because of a similar attack on a 15-year-old girl some time ago.

Governor Harry H. Woodring demanded that the mob be punished and requested the attorney general's office to co-operate with the local authorities in determining the identity of the mob leaders.

MOB EXECUTES OWN SENTENCE ON A KILLER

(Kans.) News

HANGED RICHARD READ NEAR McDONALD

Beast Who Kidnaped and Murdered Small Selden Girl Taken From Jail And Strung Up

News-Republic

A mob of men, taking the law into their own hands, dealt out the justice they thought was merited Sunday night to Richard Read 53 year old bachelor of Rexford, and after taking him from the St. Francis jail where he had been hidden, hanged him to a tree about seven miles southeast of McDonald. Read had confessed to three of the worst crimes in the catalogue of offenses against society kidnaping, rape, and murder.

Thursday night Read, who had made his home with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jake Read near Rexford, enticed eight year old Dorothy Hunter, daughter of a highway patrolman at Selden, into his car while she was on the way home from school, and kept her captive until Friday morning, when he murdered her and hid her body in a straw stack near Achilles, in Rawlins county. He then drove to Colby and told a fantastic tale of himself being kidnaped. The sheriff paid little attention to it, but later when he heard of the disappearance of the Hunter child, he suspicioned Read and arrested him, and finally secured a confession.

News-Republic

A mob said to have been composed of Selden citizens went to Colby Friday night intent on lynching Read, but Sheriff Ed McGinley saved his prisoner by telling the mob that if Read were lynched it might be difficult to find what happened to the child. He took Read and attempted to discover the hiding place of the body, but a group of Selden citizens discovered it before the officers did. A mob then attempted to catch the sheriff and his prisoner but the sheriff got to St. Francis, where he left the prisoner in [illegible]

Sunday a crowd estimated at 4,[illegible] attended the funeral of the little victim at Selden, and soon after cars began visiting nearby county seat towns, where there was a possibility the prisoner might be confined. Sunday night, warned that a mob was coming, Sheriff Bacon and Deputy Indorf of Cheyenne county decided to go to the jail and get the prisoner and secrete him from the men who were after his life, but they were intercepted while on the way to the jail, overpowered, and the keys taken from them. The men then opened the jail, while the officers were watched by other members of the party, took the prisoner out and the caravan, said to have contained about fifty cars, drove east from St. Francis to McDonald, then to the place where the hanging was done. Read confessed the crime to the mob, telling them they had the right man. After the mob dispersed the sheriff and coroner from Atwood arrived and took charge of the body.

Governor Harry Woodring was at Atwood when the lynching was done. He asked the attorney general to assist the local officers in an investigation, and Roland Boynton, the attorney general, arrived Monday and is making the investigation. Sheriff Bacon was automatically removed from office by the Kansas law which vacates the office of a sheriff who loses custody of a prisoner in his charge to a mob. It is probable he will be reinstated, as he is not personally blamed for the loss of the prisoner, although Sheriff McGinley of Colby, had twice outwitted the mob on hanging Read, and thereby demonstrated his ability as a peace officer. The quick solution of the crime is largely due to his work. The punishment was taken out of his or any other officers hands.

Read had served a term in the Colorado penitentiary some years ago for a criminal attack on a 15 year old girl at Burlington. He had been paroled after serving part of the sentence.

Sheriff A. A. Bacon, of Cheyenne county, was automatically removed from office because he lost his prisoner to the mob, but at a hearing at Atwood yesterday he was reinstated by Governor Woodring, who conducted the investigation.

Lynchings-1932
6
Cases.

Kentucky.

3605

3605

Kentucky Mob Hangs Bomber

Advertiser

PRINCETON, KY., June 1.—(AP)—The startled eyes of a farm boy discovered the body of Walter Merrick, 48, swinging from the limb of a hackberry tree in the dawn today, and Kentucky's first lynching since Christmas Day of 1929 went into the records. 6-2-32

After a coroner's knife had cut the taut rope, county officials revealed the story of a swift, surprise raid on the county jail here at midnight, the binding of Jailer Curt Jones, and removal of the prisoner without a sound to arose the sleeping citizens.

Montgomery.

Merrick, they said, made no outcry when the masked lynchers removed him from the jail where he awaited trial June 13 on a charge of dynamiting the store of M. P. Poole at Hopson, near here, last February. He was clad only in his undergarments. The six automobiles which carried the lynchers then speeded to the scene of the hanging, about two miles from here, and later dispersed in the darkness.

Advertiser

It was the first Kentucky lynching since Christer Fugate, also a white man, was taken from the Breathitt County Jail at Jackson, shot, beaten, and left in a snow-filled ditch dead on that 1929 Christmas Day.

The lynchers last night entered the room of Jailer Jones, bound him, took his keys, and proceeded to take charge of their victim. Jones's calls did not arouse assistance until half an hour later.

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ruary.

The six automobiles which carried the lynchers then speeded to the scene of the hanging, about two miles from here and later dispersed in the darkness.

It was the first Kentucky lynching since Chester Fugate was taken from the Breathitt County jail at Jackson, shot, beaten, and left dying in a snow-filled ditch. He lived several days and named several men as members of the mob.

Eight were indicted but no convictions resulted. Fugate was chairman of his county board of education, as was P'Poole. Fugate was held on a charge of shooting another Breathitt countian.

KENTUCKIAN HANGED FROM TREE BY MOB

Walter Merrick Is Victim Near Princeton.

Memphis

Commercial Appeal

6/2/32

PRINCETON, Ky., June 1.—(AP)—A startled farm boy discovered the body of [illegible] swinging from the limb of a hackberry tree in the dawn today, and Kentucky's first lynching since Christmas Day of 1929 went into the records.

After a coroner's knife had cut the taut rope, county officials revealed the story of a swift, surprise raid on the county jail here at midnight, the binding of Jailer Curt Jones, and removal of the prisoner without a sound to arouse the sleeping citizens.

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KY. CELEBRATES MASSIE PARDON WITH LYNCHING

Courier 6-11-32

PRINCETON, Ky., June 9—(ANP)—On the same day that Governor Ruby Lafoon of this State pardoned the infamous Honolulu lyncher, Lieut. Thomas Massie of the United States navy, Massie's fellow Kentuckians celebrated the notable event by marching to the county jail here at midnight and forcing the jailer to turn over to them a white man, whom they lynched in the spirit of the Massie pardon. Pittsburgh Pa.

The murdered white man is Walter Merrick. He had been arrested on a charge of dynamiting a store at Hopson and was awaiting trial. The Massie celebrants raided the jail and bound the jailer, Curt Jones, before taking Merrick a short distance away, where they hung him to a tree. The dangling body was discovered by a farm boy.

The lynching of Merrick marks the third in the lynching league for this year. This year is so far unique in the fact that the number of whites leads the number of Negroes, two of the three 1932 lynchings being white men.

One of the white men was lynched for kidnaping and raping a child. The Negro was lynched in Texas, because ,it was charged, he looked in the bedroom window of a white woman.

York, S. C. Enquirer
Friday, June 3, 1932

rnum shot Willie Fulfo
bbie Varnum to death at
port, N. C., Tuesday, Fulford
g a few hours after the shooting
Varnum is in jail facing a charge of double murder. He shot Fulford and his wife because he "couldn't stand to see Fulford support his estranged wife."

4 A

Walter Merrick, 48, was taken from the jail at Princeton, Ky., Tuesday night and lynched several miles from the town. Merrick was charged with having dynamited a store at Princeton belonging to M. P. Poole, chairman of the school board, who sided with a teacher who had whipped Merrick's son last February.

WHITE MAN IS LYNCHED IN KENTUCKY

Case

Blue Grass State Joins Hands With Kansas And Texas

6-10-32

PRINCETON, Ky., (ANP)—On the same day that Gov. Ruby Lafoon of this state pardoned the infamous Honolulu lynchers, Lieut. Thomas Massie of the United States navy, Massie's fellow Kentuckians celebrated the notable event by marching to the county jail here at midnight and forcing the jailer to turn over to them a white man whom they lynched.

The murdered white man is Walter Merrick. He had been arrested on a charge of dynamiting a store at Hopson and was awaiting trial. The Massie celebrants raided the jail and bound the jailer. Curt Jones, before taking Merrick a short distance away where they hanged him to a tree.

Kansas City. Mo.

The dangling body was discovered by a farm boy.

The lynching of Merrick marks the third lynching for 1932. Two of the three lynching victims have been white men.

One of the white men was lynched for kidnaping and raping a child. The Negro was lynched in Texas, because, it was charged, he looked into the bedroom window of a white woman.

Louisiana.

3611

Lynchings - 1932
Cases of.

PRISONER TAKEN BY MOB IS SLAIN

Telegraph
11-21-32
Macon, Ga.

Body of Negro Is Found Hanging From Tree Near Wisner La., Sunday Morning

WISNER, La., Nov. 20 (AP)—What is believed to be the first lynching in Louisiana this year occurred when a band of men took Williams House, 26-year-old Negro, from the Wisner town marshal and hanged him to a tree between here and Winnsboro. The suspended body was discovered Sunday.

The Negro was arrested Thursday by Town Marshal R. L. Graham after two young women had complained House insulted them Wednesday night. The prisoner was taken to the Franklin parish jail at Winnsboro Thursday.

Saturday afternoon Graham and P. C. Sutton, also of Wisner, went to Winnsboro and took charge of House about 4:30 o'clock with the intention of returning him here for trial in the mayor's court later in the afternoon.

About two miles from Winnsboro a band of about 15 men was said to have stopped the marshal's car and forced the officer to give up his prisoner and pistol, ordering Graham to continue to Wisner.

Sheriff Allen Price of Winnsboro, who investigated the case Sunday, said the Negro's body was found hanging from a tree Sunday morning at 9 o'clock about three miles from Wisner. He said two bullet wounds were found in the body.

PRISONER 'TAKEN' FROM MARSHAL

Amsterdam
11-23-32

WISNER, La., Nov. 21.—The lynching of Williams House, 26, by a band of men who took him from the Wisner town marshal Saturday, was revealed Sunday with the finding of his body suspended from a tree near here.

New York,
N.Y.

House was arrested Thursday by Marshal R. L. Graham after two young women had complained that he had insulted them. The prisoner was taken to jail at Winnsboro by the marshal for safe keeping, but for some unknown reason Saturday afternoon Graham and P. C. Sutton, also of Wisner, went to Winnsboro and took charge of House with the announced intention of returning him here for trial. Two miles from Winnsboro, Graham said, a band of about fifteen men stopped his car and forced him to give up his prisoner and pistol.

Louisiana Mob Lynches Negro

Advertiser
11-21-32
Montgomery, Ala.

WISNER, LA., Nov. 20.—(AP)—What is believed to be the first lynching in Louisiana this year occurred when a band of men took Williams House, 26-year-old negro, from the Wisner town marshal and hanged him to a tree between here and Winnsboro. The suspended body was discovered today.

The negro was arrested Thursday by Town Marshal R. L. Graham after two young women had complained House insulted them Wednesday night. The prisoner was taken to the Franklin Parish jail at Winnsboro Thursday afternoon by the marshal for safekeeping.

Yesterday Graham and P. C. Sutton also of Wisner, went to Winnsboro and took charge of House about 4:30 p.m with the intention of returning him here for trial in the Mayor's Court later in the afternoon.

About two miles from Winnsboro, a band of about 15 men was said to have stopped the marshal's car and forced the officer to give up his prisoner and pistol, ordering Graham and Sutton to continue to Wisner.

Sheriff Allan Frice, of Winnsboro, who investigated the case, said the negro's body was found hanging from a tree at 9 a.m. today about three miles from Wisner. He said two bullet wounds were found in the body.

Dr. C. D. Powell, Franklin Parish coroner, of Crowville, conducted an inquest this morning and concluded the negro had met his death at the hands of unidentified persons.

Lynchings-1932

Ohio

3606

Cases of

12 HELD IN DEATH OF ATLANTA NEGRO

Constitution

Body Found in Ohio River After Prisoner Is Taken From Jail.

6-12-32

IRONTON, Ohio, June 11.—(AP)—Twelve men were in South Point, Ohio, jail tonight, held without bond, and facing possible charges of murder, in connection with the finding of the body of Luke Murray, 35, Atlanta, Ga., negro, in the Ohio river today.

Atlanta Ga.

Murray was taken from the South Point jail Tuesday night by about 25 men after he had been incarcerated for threatening two white men with a knife.

Prosecutor Lee C. Andrews said he may file murder charges tonight against all 12 men. All deny knowledge of kidnaping Murray from the South Point jail.

Those held are Theodore Johnson, Taylor Napier, Willard Massie, former constable, and his two sons, Garland and Milford; Ray Robinson, Ben and James Hall, Ralph and Lewis McKee, Clyde Elkins and William Johnson.

After Murray had been placed in jail Tuesday a mob appeared that night, battered down the door and carried the negro into the country. He arrived at South Point last month as the chauffeur for Howard Davidson, Atlanta, who came north to settle a family estate.

Murray's body was badly battered when it was fished out of the river today, but Sheriff Ernest W. Bennett and Coroner J. S. King said they were unable to determine, due to the decomposed condition of the body, whether the man had been beaten to death or drowned.

Five Ohio Men Held In Lynching Negro

[illegible]

IRONTON, Ohio, June 11.—Five men, all of South Point, Ohio, were arrested today in connection with the suspected lynching of Luke Marion, 35-year-old negro of Atlanta, Ga., police here announced. today. Marion vanished mysteriously from the South Point jail last Tuesday night, where he had been imprisoned for drawing a knife.

6-12

Atlanta Ga.

Discovery of Marion's body floating in the Ohio River late yesterday resulted in a renewed investigation which led to the arrest of the five men. Twelve other arrests are expected.

YOUNGSTOWN, O
TELEGRAM
JUN 11 1932

OHIO LYNCHING BARED THRU FINDING OF BODY

Ironton Chauffeur Evidently Put To Death By Mob

Staff Special

IRONTON, O., June 11.—A supposed lynching of a negro chauffeur, a prisoner in the village jail at South Point, was revealed today with the finding of his body in the Ohio river.

The victim, Luke Marion, 35, of Atlanta, was abducted from the jail Tuesday night but authorities believed he had been merely told to "get out" and paid little attention to the case.

However, when his body was found late yesterday an inquiry started.

NEGRO VICTIM HAD BEEN IN STATE ONLY FEW WEEKS AS CHAUFFEUR— WAS RESIDENT OF ATLANTA, GA.

[illegible]

Drag Mutilated Body from Waters of Swirling Ohio River —Charge Second Degree Murder

IRONTON, O., June 15.—Indictments were returned Monday for seven of the twelve white men and boys, grilled as suspects in the lynching of Luke Murray, 35, a colored chauffeur of Atlanta, Ga., here last Tuesday night.

The men, whose ages range from 17 to 44, are being held in the Lawrence County jail on second degree murder charges. Their number includes a former constable. and father and two sons.

6-25-32

Recovery of Murray's battered body from the waters of the Ohio river, Saturday morning is claimed to be the first official acknowledgement that the man had been abducted from the jjail at South Point, Ohio village south of there.

Cleveland

Authorities said Murray was taken from the locked by a mob of about 25 white men, who then disappeared with him. It had been assumed that they had merely "chased him out of town" the officials testified.

Gazette

The man had been incarcerated for allegedly threatening two South Point men with a knife when several men sought to gang him when he resented their abusive remarks.

Although all of the twelve under arrest deny knowledge of Murray's fate or how his bruised body came to be in the river. Prosecutor Lee C. Andrews declared he expected to file first degree murder charges "against some of them, at least."

Murray came here several weeks ago as chauffeur for Howard Davidson of Atlanta, former South Point man, who had returned to settle an estate.

Whether Murray was slain and his body thrown into the stream or whether he became frightened and leaped into the water in a desperate attempt to escape had not been definitely determined at the time of this writing.

Both Coroner J. S. King and Sheriff Ernest W. Bennett asserted that the condition of the body had prevented them from clearing up that. point.

Almost every family at South Point is vitally interested in the investigation now in progress as nearly all are related in some way to the men under arrest.

Murray was the only Negro living there at the time he disappeared.

NEGRO WORKER LYNCHED IN OHIO TOWN

Daily Worker
New York
6-17-32

Taken from Jail, Beaten and Thrown In River

IRONTON, Ohio.—A Negro chauffeur was lynched here after he had been arrested because it was alleged he drew a knife in a fight with a white man.

The victim, Luke Marion, 35, was abducted from the jail Tuesday night, but authorities are reported as saying they believed he had been "merely told to get out of town" and that they "paid little attention to the case."

His body was found in the river the following Saturday, bearing marks of a severe beating.

It has been brought out that the jail doors were broken down by the lynchers, but the officials did nothing to save the Negro.

OHIO JOINS LYNCH LEAGUE

Afro-American

IRONTON, Ohio.—The once liberal State of Ohio joined in the lynching league last week when Luke Marion, 35, a chauffeur was lynched here after being adbucted from the local jail.

6-25-32

The man was lynched after he had been arrested because it was alleged he drew a knife in a fight with a white man.

Baltimore

The victim was abducted from the jail Tuesday night, but authorities are reported as saying they believed he had been "merely told to get out of town" and that they "paid little attention to the case."

The body of the man, severely bruised, was found in the river the following day.

Lynchings-1932
6
Cases of.

Texas.

3607

NEGRO LYNCHED

Telegraph

Texas Mob Avenges Affront to White Woman

4-3-32

CROCKETT, Texas, April 2 (AP).—Dave Tillis, Negro tenant farmer, was lynched after he assertedly had entered a white woman's bedroom last night. It was the first lynching in Texas in more than a year.

Arch Maples, the Negro's landlord, reported he was on his way to Crockett to turn Tillis over to officers when four men took the Negro from him and hanged him to a black-jack tree.

Macon, Ga.

Tillis was about 50 years old.

Tillis was accused a few years ago of attempting to attack an 11-year-old Negro girl. He was never tried.

50-YEAR-OLD NEGRO IS LYNCHED IN TEXAS

Constitution

CROCKETT, Texas, April 2.—(AP)—Dave Tillis, negro tenant farmer, was lynched after he assertedly had entered a white woman's bedroom last night. It was the first lynching in Texas in more than a year.

Atlanta, Ga

Arch Maples, the negro's landlord, reported he was on his way to Crockett to turn Tillis over to officers when four men took the negro from him and hanged him to a blackjack tree.

Officers were notified of the lynching. They cut down the body and brought it to Crockett for an inquest.

Tillis was 50 years old. The farm where he lived is 19 miles from Crockett. 4-3-32

Tillis was accused a few years ago of attempting to attack an 11-year-old negro girl. He was never tried.

Negro Lynched By Texas Mob

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala

CROCKETT, TEXAS, April 2.—(AP)—Dave Tillis, negro tenant farmer, was lynched after he assertedly had entered a white woman's bedroom last night. It was the first lynching in Texas in nearly two years. 4-3-32

Arch Maples, the negro's landlord, reported he was on his way to Crockett to turn Tillis over to officers when four men took the negro from him and hanged him to a blackjack tree.

Officers were notified of the lynching. They cut down the body and brought it to Crockett for an inquest.

Tillis was about 50 years old. The farm where he lived is 19 miles from Crockett.

The last previous lynching in Texas was on June 17, 1930.

Maples told the sheriff he was bringing the negro here in his automobile when the men halted the car and ordered him to turn off the lights. One had a gun.

One of the men stood guard over him, Maples said, while the others led the

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negro away into a clump of trees, where they hanged him.

Tillis was accused a few years ago of attempting to attack an 11-year-old negro girl. He was never tried.

Two Whites Charged With Murder Following Lynching

Tribune
4-8-32

CROCKETT, Texas.—Two white men, W. A. Ackley, 74, and his nephew, Paul Ackley, 24, both farmers and relatives of a white woman, who accused Dave Tillis, 52, of insulting her, were charged Monday with murder in connection with the lynching of Tillis.

Washington
D.C.

Three more men were being sought by Sheriff J. L. Hazlett after the arrest of the pair in the Austonio community, near Dismal Black Jack Forest. Tillis was seized Friday from the protection of Arch Maples and hanged to a black jack tree in the forest.

NEW YORK TIMES

APR 3 1932

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ro Is Lynched in Texas.

KETT, Texas, April 2 (AP).—Tillis, a Negro tenant farmer, lynched today because, it is alleged, he entered a white woman's bedroom last night. Arch Maples, the Negro's landlord, reported that he was on his way here to turn Tillis over to officers when four men took the Negro from him and hanged him to a black jack tree. The last previous lynching in Texas was on June 17, 1930.

Florence, S. C., News
Sunday, April 3, 1932

Negro Lynched By Texas Men

CROCKETT, Tex., April 2 —(AP)—Dave Tillis, negro tenant farmer was lynched after he assertedly had entered a white woman's bedroom last night. It was the first lynching in Texas in more than a year.

Arch Maples, the negro's landlord, reported he was on his way to Crockett to turn Tillis over to officers when four men took the negro from him and hanged him to a black jack tree.

Officers were notified of the lynching. They cut down the body and brought it to Crockett for an inquest.

Tillis was about 50 years old. The farm where he lived is 19 miles from Crockett.

The last previous lynching in Texas was June 17, 1930.

Maples told the sheriff he was bringing the negro here in his automobile when the men halted the car and ordered him to turn off the lights. One had a gun.

One of the men stood guard over him, Maples said, while the others led the negro away into a clump of trees, where they hanged him.

Tillis was accused a few years ago of attempting to attack an 11-year-old negro girl. He was never tried.

TEXANS LYNCH NEGRO

Commercial Appeal

Tenant Farmer Hanged After Entering Woman's Bedroom.

CROCKETT, Texas, April 2.—(AP)—Dave Tillis, negro tenant farmer, was lynched after he assertedly had entered a woman's bedroom last night. It was the first lynching in Texas in more than a year.

4-3-32

Arch Maples, the negro's landlord, reported that he was on his way to Crockett to turn Tillis over to officers when four men took the negro from him and hanged him to a tree.

Officers, notified of the lynching, cut down the body.

Maples told the sheriff that he was bringing the negro here in his automobile when the men halted the car and ordered him to turn off the lights. One had a gun.

One of the men stood guard over him, Maples said, while the others led the negro away into a clump of trees, where they hanged him.

Lynching League Opens Season; Texas Scores

Courier 4-9-32
Pittsburgh, Pa

CROCKETT, Tex., Apr. 7—(ANP)—The first lynching in the United States for the year 1932 and the first in Texas in two years, occurred here Friday night when four white men hanged David Tillis, 50 years old, after he was alleged to have entered the room of a white woman. Tillis was seized by the white men as he was being brought to this town by Arch Maples, a white planter, on whose farm Tillis worked.

NEW YORK
GRAPHIC

APR 2 1932

Lynch Mob Hangs Suspect In Attack on Texas Woman

Crockett, Tex., April 2 (UP).—Dave Tillus, 52-year-old Negro identified as the man who attempted to attack a white woman near here this week, was lynched last night by a party of white men, it was revealed today.

Tillus' body was found hanging to a tree fifteen miles from here, on the San Antonio highway. It was the first lynching in Texas in nearly two years.

Texas Starts Lynching Year

Journal and Guide

CROCKET, Tex. — This state which went through 1931 without a single mob outrage, started the "lynching year" last Friday when Dave Tillis, a tenant farmer, was lynched by a half a dozen men for entering the bedroom of a white woman the night before. 4-9-32

Tillis was hanged to a black jack tree while one of the mob, held guard over Arch Maples, white, Tillis' landlord, who was bringing the man to this town for the authorities. Tillis' farm was about 19 miles from here.

Norfolk
Va.

Officers came later and cut down the mans' body and held it for an inquest.

Tillis did not attack the woman, so far as is known; all charges claim that he entered the bedroom only. Police claim that a few years ago he attempted to attack an 11-year-old colored girl, but he was never brought to trial. He was about 50 years old.

So far nothing has been done to bring the members of the lynching party to the bars of justice, neither has Governor Ross Sterling made any statement.

HOUSTON, TEX.
POST DISPATCH

APR 3 1932

Negro Lynched Near Crockett

Tenant Farmer Seized From Candidate For Sheriff.

CROCKETT, April 3.—(Sp)—A death-like silence Saturday night cloaked bat-infested Black Jack forest, 18 miles west of here in the Trinity river bottoms, as posses continued to search for the four men who lynched Dave Tillis, 52, negro, Friday night.

The dim trail of the four men who avenged an insult to a white woman by hanging the negro to a gnarled black jack tree with a doubled plow line, was all but obliterated by nightfall.

Rangers were expected here later on in the night to aid officers in investigating the rural lynching which was the first in Texas in more than a year. No one knew who asked for the state officers but it was generally understood here that the rangers were en route to take up the investigation.

Removed From Car.

Tillis, a tenant farmer, was removed from the automobile of Arch Maples, 35, candidate for sheriff of Houston county, by four unmasked men, two of whom were armed. Maples was stopped as he was taking the negro to Crockett after a woman had accused Tillis of coming to her home on Wednesday night, entering her bedroom and saying he was going to spend the night. The woman was living apart from her husband.

Maples said he could not recognize any of the four men as they stood in the darkness [illegible] the time he had his lights burn[illegible] on [illegible] automobile.

Met [illegible] Quartet.

"I was driving down the highway about 9 p. m.," Maples said, "when two men suddenly loomed in front of me in the road. One had a shot gun and the other a pistol.

They commanded me to stop and ordered Dave out of the automobile.

"I told them to leave the negro alone as I was taking him to the sheriff at Crockett. They didn't say anything but the man with the pistol walked up to the side of the car and shoved the pistol in my side.

"'Get out of that car and turn off your lights,'" Maples quoted the man as saying. He said he complied with the order and was told to remain beside the machine while two men appeared out of the forest and took the negro back into the woods.

DISPATCH
DALLES, TEX.

APR 2 1932

NEGRO LYNCHED FOR MOLESTING WHITE WOMAN

Body Found Hanging to Tree 15 Miles From Crockett On San Antonio-rd.

United Press Leased Wire.

Crockett, April 2.—Dave Tillus, 52, negro identified in an attempt to assault a white woman near here this week, was lynched last night by a party of white men.

The body of Tillus was found hanging to a tree 15 miles from here on the San Antonio highway. It was the first lynching in Texas in nearly two years.

Arch Maples, owner of the river farm on which Tillus worked, told Sheriff J. L. Hazlett the negro appeared at the home of a white woman two nights ago and announced that he planned to spend the night with her. She drove him away with an ax and threw his boots, which he had removed, after him.

Failed to Appear.

Tillus failed to appear for work yesterday and when Maples heard of the incident he said he located Tillus last night and started here with him.

Halfway here Maples said he was stopped by four white men who bound the negro's hands behind him and swung him from a tree limb 200 yards from the road. The negro's body was found about 11 p. m. and was brought to the jail here today.

Dist. Atty. Ben Greenwood arrived here today and said he would make a full investigation.

Except for a blow over the eye, the body of Tillus bore no marks other than from the rope which had killed him. He had lived in Houston-co all his life.

Sheriff Notified.

Maples said a moment later his guard departed after telling him to drive on. The candidate for sheriff said he drove into Crockett and notified Sheriff J. L. Hazlett. The two returned to the scene about 11 p. m. and found the negro hanging from a black jack tree about 200 feet off the highway. His feet were about 18 inches off the ground. Tillis had strangled to death.

A gash on his forehead gave evidence the negro had been struck with a blunt instrument before he was lynched.

Sheriff Hazlett, District Attorney Ben Greenwood and County Attorney Henry Adams spent the afternoon Saturday in the vicinity of the lynching hoping to pick up a clue.

The trio also went further into details concerning the alleged attempt of the negro to attack the white woman.

Tillis was charged two years ago with attacking an 11-year-old girl but was never brought to trial.

Late Saturday night County Attorney Adams, Sheriff Hazlett and District Attorney Greenwood returned here and said residents of the river country were reticent to discuss the case. They said they expected an arrest to be made Monday.

The district attorney said he had learned from the woman that the negro had placed his hand on her thigh and that her small nine-year-old son then drove the negro from the house with an ax.

DISPATCH
DALLES, TEX.

Texas Has First Lynching of 1932

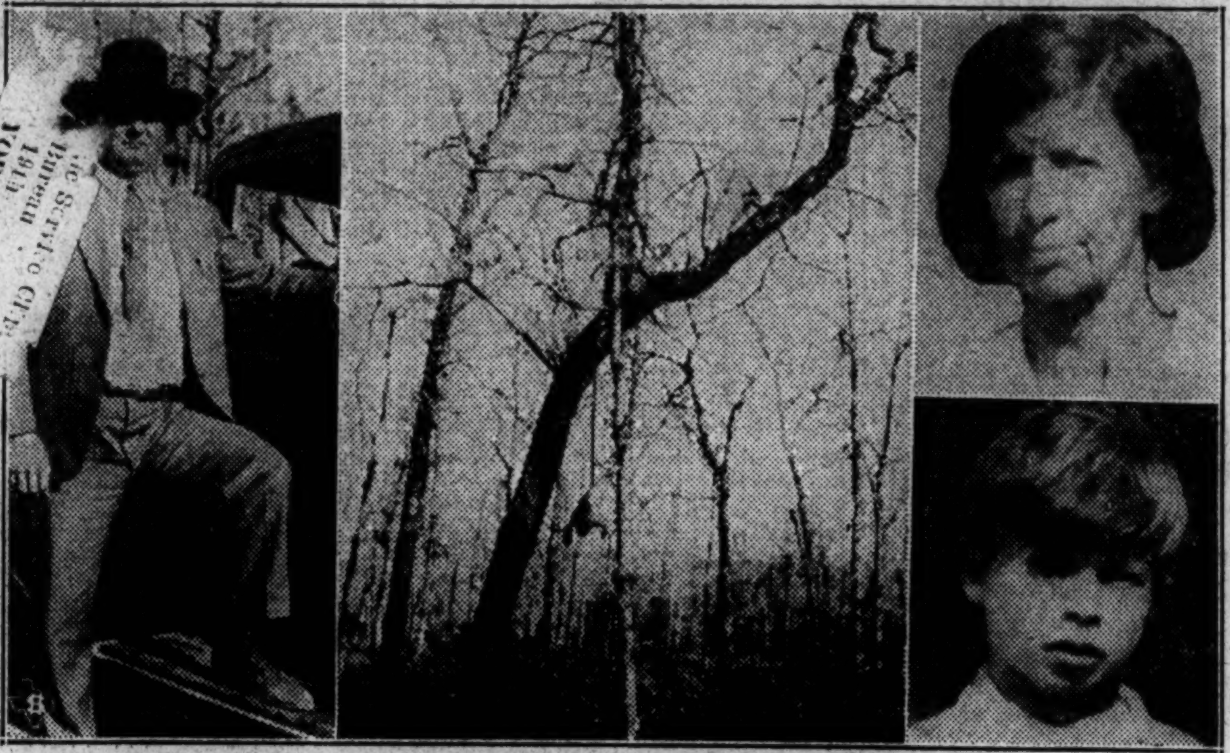
Race
4-8-32

CROCKETT, Tex.—(ANP)—The first lynching in the United States for the year 1932 and the first in Texas in two years, occurred here Friday night when ~~four~~ white men hanged David Tillis, 50 years old, after he was alleged to have entered the room of a white woman. Tillis was seized by the white men as he was being brought to this town by Arch Maples, a white planter on whose farm Tillis worked.

DISPATCH
DALLES, TEX.

APR 5 1932

Scenes of First Texas Lynching in Two Years



The body of Dave Tillus, Houston-co negro, was found strung up to the tree (shown center) last Friday night, 15 miles from Crockett. It was the first lynching in Texas in nearly two years, 1931 having gone without a lynching. Tillus had attempted to attack a white woman, Mrs. Hattie Parker (upper right). Folowing news of the attempted attack, the negro's employer, Arch Maples, (left) started to Crockett to place him in jail. On the way they were stopped by four white men, who hanged Tillus. Mrs. Parker's nine-year-old son, who aided her in warding Tillus off with an ax, is shown.

NEGRO FARMER HANGED TO TREE BY 4 WHITE MEN

Houston

Crockett.—Another victim was added to old man Lynch Law's Rule in Texas this week when Dave Tillis, a Negro farm hand was taken into the woods and hanged several miles southwest of here. Reports reaching here are to the effect that this outrageous crime was committed by four white men, but the men's names are not given in the report.

The murdered man was employed as a farm hand on the farm of one Arch Maples (white), and no one seems to be quite clear on what the man did to warrant such drastic punishment. Officers say that they were told that the man went to the home of a white woman near a farm where he worked and pulled off his boots, and that the woman seized an ax and drove him from the vicinity, hurling his boots after him. While it may be true that Negroes are not allowed to remove their shoes in houses occupied by whites in Texas, it seems incredible that this act could have been so offensive as to have brought such terrible punishment. Many Negroes are wondering why this Negro was so much at home. Some boldly say that no Negro would go in a white woman's home and pull off his boots unless he had reason to feel at home there.

Maples, who is now a candidate for the office of sheriff, said, according to officers, that the man did not report for work on one morning last week and that he (Maples) started looking for him, finally locating him, and started with him for Crockett because he feared for the farm hand's life. About half way to town, the car was stopped by the lynchers, who took the man into the woods and hanged him to a tree. The report stated that an investigation was being made into the matter, but does not make clear just what sort of investigation is needed, as the lynchers are reported to have made no attempt to concel their identity and seem to be well known in that general section. It is said that politics had something to do with the lynching. It is also claimed that Maples yielded the prisoner so readily that he is being charged by the present sheriff's friends with actual connivance. They claim Maples was trying to hurt the record of the present sheriff and ingratiate himself with the radicals who are expected to dominate the coming election. Anyway, the present sheriff who enjoys the reputation of being fair, was very angry and is still threatening to clean out the lynchers. Negroes hope his anger will hold out until they punish the guilty parties.

Another interesting feature of this lynching is that Adjt. Gen. W. W. Sterling's Ranger force, which is dispatch to the scene whenever mob violence is threatened, and which is said to have prevented many lynchings in the state, had not reached Crockett even after reports were made to the newspapers, although a whole night elapsed between the time when the alleged offense was committed and the time of the lynching. Gen. Sterling was quoted on the day of the lynching as saying that he had not been officially informed of the lynching.

It is said that this is the first lynching ever perpetrated in Crockett. Crockett Negroes recently organized a Chamber of Commerce with the approval of the white chamber. We are trying to get a statement from the officials of the Chamber of Commerce.

As we go to press, word comes that W. A. Ackley, Rube Ackley, and Paul Ackley, relatives of Mrs. Hattie Smith, the woman in the case, and R. L. Downs and Albert Smith ~~have been arrested. It is not known whether or not~~ Maple has been arrested.

Lynchings-1932
Cases of.

9

Virginia

3608

NORFOLK, VA.
LEDGER-DISPATCH

SEP 16 1932

Two Lynchings; One in Virginia

Warrenton, Va., Sept. 16—(AP)—A body identified by officers as that of Shadrick Thompson, Negro, sought in connection with attacking Mr. and Mrs. Henry Baxley several weeks ago, was found last night hanging from a tree on the Miller place, between Fiery Run and Linden, Va.

The body was found by Tode Kenney, a white man employed on the Miller place, about 200 yards from Kenney's home, in a dense undergrowth.

Mr. and Mrs. Baxley were attacked early on the morning of July 12 while sleeping in their home at Hume, Va., near Culpepper.

Mr. Baxley was struck over the head and stunned by a stick of stove wood and Mrs. Baxley was dragged from her home and left, in a semi-conscious condition, about a half mile from the house, where she was found later.

New York American

SEP 17 1932

Mob Tries to Burn Body of Attacker

WARRENTON, Va., Sept. 16 (AP).—The body of Shadrack Thompson, negro, sought in connection with an attack on Mr. and Mrs. Henry Baxley was found hanging from a tree near Linden. Before officers reached the spot, a large crowd gathered and attempted to set fire to the body.

Suspect Found Lynched in Virginia

New York News
9-17-32

Warrenton, Va., Sept. 16 (AP).—A body identified by officers as that of Shadrock Thompson, colored, sought for an attack on Mr. and Mrs. Henry Baxley several weeks ago, was found last night hanging from a tree between Fiery Run and Linden, Va.

VIRGINIA MOB CREMATES BODY AFTER LYNCHING

Washington Tribune
9-23-32

Coroner Claims Man Found Hanging From Tree Committed Suicide

MARKHAM, Va.—Despite the fact that the body of Shadrack Thompson was found hanging from the limb of an apple tree here Thursday night with all of the evidence of having been lynched, Coroner George Davs, after viewing the remains declared that the man committed "suicide."

Some of the crowd lighted a match to the swinging body and set it afire. This was done after the alleged discovery. There was evidence that gasoline had been poured on the body.

Usual "Attack" Alibi

The usual crime of an "attack" on a white man and his wife, was attributed to Thompson. Early on June 12 Thompson is alleged to have beaten Henry L. Baxley and his wife, of Hume, Va., while they slept in a first-floor room of their farmhouse.

Baxley was said to have been beaten into unconsciousness and his wife dragged from the house and left in a semi-conscious condition a half mile away.

The body of Thompson was badly decomposed and the coroner expressed the "belief" that the man had hanged himself after the "attack." Following the alleged "attack" on the Baxleys a search was conducted for Thompson. Baxley reported the "attack" when he regained consciousness and missed his wife.

"Jumped" Off Rock Pile

A pile of rocks were found under the hanging body and Commonwealth Attorney Carter expressed the opinion that Thompson" had taken" his own life shortly after the "attack and" piled up the stones, stood on them, then tied a rope around his neck and jumped off the pile, despite the fact that it would have been much more logical for the man to have climbed up the tree and jumped down rather than pile up a heap of stones.

The rope found around the man's neck "was identified" as having been in Thompson's possession the day before the "attack." A posse with ropes searched the surrounding country for Thompson shortly after the "attack." They came back claiming that the man could not be found. It is evident by fair-minded persons here that the posse lynched Thompson after finding him.

RICHMOND, VA.
NEWS-LEADER

SEP 20 1932

WAS IT A LYNCHING?

The circumstances surrounding the death of SHADRACK THOMPSON, in Warren county, ought to be probed. This Negro was suspected of an attack on Mr. and Mrs. HENRY BAXLEY, of Hume, Va., in July. He had been employed by the BAXLEYS, and disappeared after the attack. His body was found Thursday not far from Linden, hanging from a tree and partially burned. The theory of the county officers is that when his pursuers were close on his trail, he committed suicide rather than submit to arrest. The distance of the body from the scene of the murder, the time that had elapsed after his disappearance, and the absence of all hints of mob violence make this probable. The case is certainly not to be written down as a lynching unless positive evidence is forthcoming. Negroes, however, very rarely commit suicide, and persons who find a dead body hanging from a tree in the woods are not apt to set fire to it before notifying the sheriff. If this actually happened, the facts should be established beyond all doubt. Virginia is increasingly jealous of her good name as a state that protects even the worst criminal from the madness of the mob, and she is determined to enforce to the letter her stringent anti-lynching law.

Northern Va. Daily
Front Royal, Va.

SEP 27 1932

WARRENTOWN, Va.—A body identified by officers as that of Shadrook Thompson, Negro, sought for questioning in an attack on a white couple several weeks ago, was found Thursday night, September 1, hanging from a tree between Fiery Run and Linden, Va.

9-24-32

LOOKS LIKE LYNCHING

(The Clifton Forge Review)

Some days ago in Northern Virginia a colored man was found hanging to a tree. According to reports, he was wanted on a serious charge and was sought by the officers in one or more counties until they lost track of him. Taking it for granted that he had escaped to parts unknown, the crime laid at the door of the missing man became a closed incident. But imagine the surprise of those concerned when his corpse was located as above stated. The Richmond News-Leader is of the opinion that it was a clear case of lyneching, in that few colored people commit suicide, and with our contemporary we are inclined to agree. At any rate, there should be a thorough investigation in order that the facts may be brought out. Quite naturally there was no regret on the part of a great many people when advised that the much sought man was dead, due to the seriousness of the crime with which he was charged, but it was not in keeping with the dignity of the Commonwealth to have lynched him. As we see it, the law should have been permitted to take its course. If this had been done, the probabilities are that the man allegedly lynched would have paid the death penalty in the penitentiary as provided by law. Without any knowledge as to the details, we have a suspicion that he was put to death, despite the opinion of the coroner to the contrary. Coming back to the suicide, it is of interest to say that few people would choose that method if pursued by officers. In the first place, an individual eluding arrest could not have found the time to locate a piece of rope. Furthermore, we imagine that if the dead man had decided to commit suicide he would have drowned himself in preference to climbing a tree and adjusting a rope about his neck. In any event we are in accord with what the News-Leader had to say and we quote from that newspaper as follows:

"The circumstances surrounding the death of Shadrack Thompson, colored, in Warren County, ought to be probed. This colored man was suspected of an attack on Mr. and Mrs. Henry Baxley, of Hume, Va., in July. He had been employed by the Baxleys, and disappeared after the attack. His body was found not far from Linden, hanging from a tree and partially burned. The theory of the county officers is that when his pursuers were close on his trail, he committed suicide rather than submit to arrest. The distance of the body from the scene of the murder, the time that elapsed after his disappearance, and the absence of all hints of mob violence make this probable. The case is certainly not to be written down as a lynching unless positive evidence is forthcoming. Colored, people, however, very rarely commit suicide, and persons who find a dead body hanging from a tree in the woods are not apt to set fire to it before notifying the sheriff. If this actually happened, the facts should be established beyond all doubt. Virginia is increasingly jealous of her good name as a State that protects even the worst criminal from the madness of the mob, and she is determined to enforce to the letter her stringent anti-lynching law."

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If This Is A Suicide, What's A Lynching?

Journal & Guide

WARRENTON, Va.—(CNS)—The body of a Negro suspect, believed to have been hung by members of a sheriff's posse several weeks ago, was found hanging to an old apple tree near here was promptly cut down and burned by a mob of white farmers from this district.

Police, arriving at the scene three hours after the body was discovered Wednesday of last week, were able to save the man's head from the flames which had practically consumed the rest of the body. From this they identified the man as Shadrack Thompson, accused of attacking his former-employer, Henry L. Baxley, later assaulting Mrs. Baxley.

The body was partially decomposed when found. The coroner said he believed it had been hanging there since the time of the Baxley assault, on July 12.

Although officials claim that the hanging was suicide, the explanation is not generally accepted. Thompson would make the 9th lynching this year.

That feeling against Thompson was intense is borne out by the action of the mob in burning the body upon discovery eight weeks later, without awaiting the arrival of authorities.

TWO LYNCHED LAST WEEK; 1 BURNED

Afro-American [illegible]-32
Baltimore, Md.

Mob violence which has been on the increase in recent months, broke out in two sections of the country last week resulting in the lynching of two men at the hands of white law-l reakers.

At Warrenton, Va., the body of a suspect, believed to have been hung by members of a sheriff's posse several weeks ago, was found hanging to an old apple tree, Wednesday afternoon, and was promptly cut down and burned by a mob of white farmers from this district.

Polive arriving at the scene three hours after the body was discovered, were able to save the man's head from the flames which had practically consumed the rest of the body. From this they identified the man as Shadrack Thompson, accused of attacking his former farmer-employer, Henry L. Baxley, later assaulting Mrs. Baxley.

Hanged From Pole

The second debauch took place in Crossett, Arkansas, where a mob of white hoodlums dragged a suspect from the jail and hung him from a pole in front of the jail in the business section of the town as women and children looked on.

The youth, Frank Tucker, 24, had been arrested on a charge of trying to steal from a bank teller's window.

Tucker was awaiting a hearing in the jail under guard of Sheriff's Deputy Reed. He is alleged to have whipped out a razor and demanded that the deputy give up his gun. The deputy claims that Tucker then sprang upon him, cut his throat and ran from the building.

After a short chase by bystanders, Tucker was recaptured and returned to a cell in the jail. A few minutes later he was dragged therefrom by an angry white mob of 1,000 which quickly gathered, and hung to the electric light pole in front of the jail in the heart of the city's business district.

BURNING OF MAN NO LYNCHING

Courier
10-15-32
Pittsburgh, Pa.

LINDEN, Va., Oct. 13—(CNS)—The burning of the body of Shadrack Thompson, which was found hanging to the limb of an apple tree and burned, after it had been outrageously mutilated by a mob of local farmers, was not a lynching, according to the verdict of the Fauquier special grand jury which reported that it could not discover any evidence as to who burned the body, discovered on September 15.

Stories to the effect that the man accused of attacking a white farmer and his wife in July, has been hanged by a posse, gained so much credence that the case was laid before the grand jury who held that the suspect had committed suicide, and that they were unable to affix blame for the burning of his body, although hundreds of local citizens admitted freely taking part in the ghastly midnight scene on Rattlesnake mountain, and several admitted after the finding of the body, that they had taken part in Thompson's lynching two months before.

There were about 200 members of the mob which burned Thompsons body, witnesses at the investigation reported. According to hte testimony of physician- coroner Davis, the man committed suicide, and he points to the fact that the man's hands were not tied to establish this contention. Although first stories claim that the body was completely charred when the officials finally arrived, Dr. Davis claims that he was among the first on the scene.

"I got there ahead of the crowd," the coroner said, "and there was plenty of time to make a complete examination. I naturally wondered if he had really killed himself, and made the examination with this idea in mind. There is not the slightest doubt in my mind but that he did hang himself.

"The cord he used was one that had been in his possession when he fled," Dr. Davis said. "It was a piece of rope which no one except a suicide would have thought of using. The man climbed upon one limb and attached the rope to another, immediately above the one on which he was sitting, tied a clumsy loop in it, and slid off.

"His hands were not tied. The body showed signs of the weather but positively it had not received any ante-mortem injury.

"If some one had hanged him, it would have been necessary to tie his hands, and there would have been a disarrangement of the clothing. Nobody hanged him. He hanged himself for a good reason."

Dr. Davis said that Noah Kenney discovered the body while following a fence to find out how some cattle had gotten into the orchard.

The physician-corone. admitted that doubtless Thompson would have been lynched if he had been found alive.

"But he was not lynched, unless the burning of a corpse is a lynching," he said. He estimated that the crowd which gathered at the scene numbered more than 150.

"They kept coming all night," he said. "They scrambled over possession of the man's teeth. We brought the skull back to Warrenton and I have it now."

The skull and the piece of rope were on exhibit in Warrenton for several days after the bonfire.

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RICHMOND, VA.
NEWS-LEADER
OCT 7 1932

Y

[illegible]T A LYNCHING.

Be[illegible], jealous of the good name o Virgin[illegible] in suppressing lynch-law, The News Leader recently sent one of its most experienced staff correspondents to Warrenton to investigate the suspicious circumstances surrounding the death of SHADRACK THOMPSON. The Negro's body was found in the woods, hanging from a tree, and had been there many days when discovered. Those who came to the spot some hours after the finding of the corpse saw that a fire had been lighted under it, and that the remains were much mistreated. It looked, at first sight, as if a lynching had occurred.

A full and unavoidably-gruesome account of the affair, in the form of a report from The News Leader investigator, is printed this afternoon. It seems to about as conslusive as such a docu[illegible] be. Undoubtedly the body of the m[illegible] outrageously mutilated; but the sta[illegible] of DR. GEORGE H. DAVIS, a gentleman of the highest standing, proves that when the corpse was first found there was no evidence of mob-violence. All the circumstances pointed to suicide, especially the fact that the hands of the man were not tied. The mutilation was performed by a crowd that gathered after the discovery of the body was known.

The whole affair, surely, is no credit to Virginia. Such ghoulishness disgraces the state. But the case is not one to be written down on the dark roll of lynchings.

Whites Urge Tuskegee Statisticians Not to Tabulate Burning of Shadrack Thompson Among Year's Lynchings.

Courier 11-5-32
Pittsburgh, Pa.

RICHMOND, Va., Nov. 3—(CNS)—Virginians are still active in their efforts to have the burning of the body of Shadrack Thompson, a Negro suspect, excluded from the lynching statistics of the year. Tuskegee Institute, which has collected, tabulated and published such statistics for many years, has been appealed to, and it is reported here that Dr. Robert R. Moton, principal of the school, is going over reports of the incident with the aid of Virginians and has stated that there will be a very careful scrutiny of the known facts before a final decision.

Stories to the effect that the man accused of attacking a white farmer and his wife in July, had been hanged by a posse gained so much credence that the case was laid before the grand jury who held the suspect had committed suicide and that they were unable to affix blame for the burning of his body.

This verdict, however, failed to quiet and "hush up" the case as hundreds of local citizens admitted freely taking part in the ghastly midnight scene on Rattlesnake mountain, and several admitted after finding the body, that they had taken part in Thompson's lynching two months before.

The Richmond News Leader investigated the case and revealed that many of the reports about it were imaginary stories circulated after the body of the Negro criminal was found and burned by a mob.

The newspaper report of the affair has been sent to Tuskegee Institute as evidence indicating that this case should not be classed as a lynching under the known circumstances unless the term "lynching" can be applied to violence against a long-dead corpse. There [illegible] no doubt however, that the burn[illegible] man's teeth were carried away [illegible] souvenirs by a mob made up of [illegible] and Warren[illegible] skull was [illegible]

If This Is A Suicide, What's A Lynching?

Journal & Guide 9-24-32

WARRENTON, Va.—(CNS)—The body of a Negro suspect, believed to have been hung by members of a sheriff's posse several weeks ago, was found hanging to an old apple tree near here was promptly cut down and burned by a mob of white farmers from this district.

Police, arriving at the scene three hours after the body was discovered Wednesday of last week, were able to save the man's head from the flames which had practically consumed the rest of the body. From this they identified the man as Shadrack Thompson, accused of attacking his former-employer, Henry L. Baxley, later assaulting Mrs. Baxley.

The body was partially decomposed when found. The coroner said he believed it had been hanging there since the time of the Baxley assault, on July 12.

Although officials claim that the hanging was suicide, the explanation is not generally accepted. Thompson would make the 9th lynching this year.

That feeling against Thompson was intense is borne out by the action of the mob in burning the body upon discovery eight weeks later, without awaiting the arrival of authorities.

Lynchings - 1932
Cases of.

Virginia

3609

Burning of Body of Negro in Virginia Classed as Lynching

Washington Tribune
Washington D C
12-23-32

Capital News Service

The burning of the body of Shadrack Thompson, a Negro suspect, in Fauquier County, Virginia some months ago is to be included in the list of lynchings for 1932 soon to be released by the research department of Tuskegee Institute.

A few weeks ago proud Virginians started a movement to have the burning of the body of Thompson excluded from the lynching statistics of the year.

Tuskegee Institute which has collected, tabulated and published such statistics for many years was appealed to, but after a careful scrutiny of all the known facts has classified it as a lynching and will include it in its compilation of lynchings for 1932 to be published January 1.

Stories to the effect that the man Shadrock Thompson accused of attacking a white farmer and his wife in July, had been hanged by a posse gained so much credence that the case was laid before the grand jury who held the suspect had committed suicide and that they were unable to affix blame for the burning of his body.

This verdict, however, failed to quiet and "hush up" the case as hundreds of citizens admitted freely taking part in the ghastly midnight scene on Rattlesnake Mountain, and several admitted after finding the body, that they had taken part in Thompson's lynching two months before.

The Richmond News Leader sought to show that many of the reports about it were imaginary stories. The newspaper report of affair was sent to Tuskegee Institute as evidence indicating that this case should not be classed as lynching under the known circumstances unless the term "lynching" can be applied to violence against a long-dead corpse.

There is no doubt however, that the burned man's teeth were carried away as souvenirs by a mob made up of people from Fauquier and Warren counties, and that his skull was carried to Warrenton and exhibited there.

BURNING BODY NEGRO CLASSED AS LYNCHING

Savannah Journal
Savannah Ga
12-21-32

Washington, Dec. 19 (CNS).—The burning of the body of Shadrack Thompson, a Negro suspect, in Fauquier County, Virginia some months ago is to be included in the list of lynchings for 1932 soon to be released by the research department of Tuskegee Institute.

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VA. BURNING IS CALLED LYNCHING

Afro-American
Baltimore Md
12-24-32

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Richmond
Saturday, December 31, 1932

LYNCHING REPORT BOTHERS CITIZENS

State Officials Perturbed Over Citing Thompson Case as Mob Act.

Governor Pollard, Former Governor Byrd, under whose administration Virginia's anti-lynching law was enacted, and other Virginia officials and citizens are much concerned, because the commonwealth was reported the scene of a lynching during 1932.

The case cited was that of Shadrach Thompson, who was found dead in Fauquier county and whose body was mutilated weeks after death by a mob in September.

The case was investigated by The News Leader, among others, and all of the direct evidence indicated that the Negro killed himself after committing a terrible crime and while he was being sought by the authorities. There was no evidence whatever pointing toward the lynching of the man. A Fauquier grand jury called every witness who was reputed to know anything about the case and after a two-day session, declared that the man died a suicide and that his body had been abused by persons unknown to the jury.

Under Virginia law a lynching is a major crime for which local authorities may be held accountable and prosecuted.

The News Leader sent the result of its investigation to Dr. R. R. Moton, noted Negro head of Tuskegee, stating that the affair could not be classed as a lynching, and the Tuskegee authorities investigated the case preliminary to reporting it.

Meanwhile, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored Peoples has reported that Virginia had a lynching at Warrenton in 1932 and that the victim was Shadrach Thompson.

Official Disputes Lynching Claim

Richmond Planet
12-31-32
Richmond Va

Following the publication by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People of the list of lynchings in the country during the past year, which list included the name of Shadrack Thompson in Warrenton, Va., last September, the officials of Fauquier County entered a vehement denial that any lynching had occurred in that county and asserted that Thompson was a victim of his own act. The officers base their contention upon reports made by the coroner's and grand juries which investigated the case.

Body Cut Down and Burned

Thompson's body was found by citizens of the county hanging to a tree following a vain attempt by a sheriff's posse to apprehend him for an alleged criminal assault. Before any law officer could arrive on the scene the body had been cut down and burned to such an extent that only the skull was rescued from the flames. The suspicious circumstances surrounding the case led to an investigation by a Richmond daily newspaper with the result that the newspaper confirmed the findings of the coroner's and the grand juries to the effect that Thompson had committed suicide.

Lynchings- 1932
Cases of.

Virginia

3610

NOT A LYNCHING.

News Leader 10-7-32 Richmond, Va.

Being very jealous of the good name of Virginia in suppressing lynch-law, The News Leader recently sent one of its most experienced staff correspondents to Warrenton to investigate the suspicious circumstances surrounding the death of **SHADRACK THOMPSON**. The Negro's body was found in the woods, hanging from a tree, and had been there many days when discovered. Those who came to the spot some hours after the finding of the corpse saw that a fire had been lighted under it, and that the remains were much mistreated. It looked, at first sight, as if a lynching had occurred.

A full and unavoidably-gruesome account of the affair, in the form of a report from The News Leader investigator, is printed this afternoon. It seems to us about as conslusive as such a document can be. Undoubtedly the body of the man was outrageously mutilated; but the statement of Dr. **GEORGE H. DAVIS**, a gentleman of the highest standing, proves that when the corpse was first found there was no evidence of mob-violence. All the circumstances pointed to suicide, especially the fact that the hands of the man were not tied. The mutilation was performed by a crowd that gathered after the discovery of the body was known.

The whole affair, surely, is no credit to Virginia. Such ghoulishness disgraces the state. But the case is not one to be written down on the dark roll of lynchings.

FIND VA. LYNCHING STORIES BASELESS

News Leader

Body of Man Accused of Attack Burned After He Hanged Himself.

10-7-32

Richmond, Va.

By News Leader Staff Correspondent

LINDEN, Va., Oct. 7.—A review of the case of Shadrack Thompson, Fauquier county Negro accused of criminal attack, who was found hanging from an apple tree on the old Miller place near here Sept. 15, revealed today that the many lynching stories which have arisen since the finding of the body are without foundation.

Thompson's body was burned by a mob about three hours after it was discovered late in the afternoon. The teeth from the corpse were carried away as souvenirs by a score of proud participants in the post-mortem orgy, but there has not developed the slightest evidence that Thompson technically was lynched.

Every circumstance of the case thus far revealed points to the theory that the crazed Negro, after the horrible crime he committed, and after being the fugitive in the most savage man chase in the history of the county, hanged himself.

The lynching stories, all of which have arisen since the discovery of the body and the gruesome bonfire attended by nearly 200 people, allege that:

1. Thompson was caught and lynched three days before the body was discovered.
2. He was mutilated.
3. He was shot.
4. He was scorched.

All of the stories agree that he was mutilated and scorched before he was hanged, and that he was caught three days before the body was found by Noah Kenney, tenant farmer, in the orchard on the old Miller farm owned by A. W. Borden on Rattlesnake mountain.

These circumstantial claims all collapse in the light of uncontroverted and expert testimony by men who examined the body at leisure and in detail before the mob arrived to burn it.

News Leader

Dr. George H. Davis, of Warrenton, the coroner, told The News Leader's investigator that:

1. The Negro, identified as Thompson, had been dead several weeks.
2. The body was not mutilated.
3. There was not a single bullet mark.
4. There was not the slightest sign of ante-mortem injury of any kind.

10-7-32

Certain He Hanged Self.

Dr. Davis, who practices medicine at Warrenton and is the last man in the county open to suspicion of bearing false evidence to a grand jury or to the public, says that he is absolutely certain that this man had hanged himself. The other county officers concurred in this opinion as did a Fauquier grand jury.

Richmond

"The cord he used was one that had been in his possession when he fled," Dr. Davis said. "It was a piece of rope which no one except a suicide would have thought of using. The man climbed upon one limb and attached the rope to another, immediately above the one on which he was sitting, tied a clumsy loop in it, and slid off.

"His hands were not tied. The body showed signs of the weather, but positively it had not received any ante-mortem injury.

"If some one had hanged him, it would have been necessary to tie his hands, and there would have been a disarrangement of the clothing. Nobody hanged him. He hanged himself and for a good reason."

Dr. Davis said that Noah Kenney discovered the body while following a fence to find out how some cattle had gotten into the orchard.

Got There Ahead of Crowd.

"I got there ahead of the crowd," the coroner said, "and there was plenty of time to make a complete examination. I naturally wondered if he had really killed himself and made the examination with this idea in mind. There is not the slightest doubt in my mind but that he did hang himself."

The physician-coroner admitted that doubtless Thmpson would have been lynched if he had been found alive.

"But he was not lynched, unless the burning of a corpse is a lynching," he said.

He estimated that the crowd which gathered at the scene numbered more than 150.

"They kept coming all night," he said. "They scrambled over possession of the man's teeth. We brought the skull back to Warrenton and I have it now."

The skull and the piece of rope were on exhibit in Warrenton for several days after the bonfire.

Prior to discovery of the suspended body on Sept. 15, there were no lynching stories in circulation, but immediately after the ghastly midnight scene on Rattlesnake mountain, scores of people in Fauquier and Warren claimed to have helped lynch Thompson three days before.

The stories gained so much credence that Judge J. R. H. Alexander, of Leesburg, put them before a session of the Fauquier grand jury and ordered a number of the alleged lynchers summoned and examined. The jury found that the man died a suicide.

The text of its report follows: "Grand jury Monday, Oct. 3rd, 1932. A. C. Teid, foreman; H. I. Hutton, S. M. Read, G. R. Thompson and G. L. Ficklin reported that Shadrack Thompson, wanted for rape, committed suicide and that they could find no evidence as to who burned the body discovered on 15th of September, 1932."

The crime for which Thompson was sought was committed July 18 near Hume. This crime was of a nature calculated to arouse the most violent emotions, and the hunt of the Negro was carried out with a vigor and completeness, which brought many protests from Negro families suspected of having given the fugitive shelter.

There is no evidence that anyone gave him shelter and Negroes, as well as whites, joined in the man hunt, which continued for weeks after the crime.

Va. Insist Ghoulish Burning Of Suspect No Lynching

The Carolina Times

—o—

Linden, Va.—(CNS)—The burning of the body of Shadrack Thompson which was found hanging to the limb of an apple tree and burned, after it had been outrageously mutilated by a mob of local farmers, was not a lynching, according to the verdict of the Fauquier special grand jury which reported that it could not discover any evidence as to who burned the body, discovered on September 15.

10-5-32

Stories to the effect that the man accused of attacking a white farmer and his wife in July, had been hanged by a posse gained so much credence that the case was laid before the grand jury who held that the suspect had committel suicide and that they were unable to affix blame for the burning of his body, although hundreds of local citizens admitted freely taking part in the ghastly midnight scene on Rattlesnake mountain, and several admitted after the finding of the body, that they had taken part in Thompson's lynching two months before.

There were about 200 members of the mob which burned Thompson's body, witnesses at the investigation reported. According to the testimony of physician-coroner Davis, the man committed suicide, and he points to the fact that the man's hands were not tied to establish this contention. Although first stories claim that the body was completely charreed when the officials finally arrived. Dr. Davis claims that he was among the first on the scene.

"I got there ahead of the crowd," he coroner said, "and there was plenty of time to make a complete examination. I naturally wondered [illegible] made the [illegible] idea in mind. There is not the slightest doubt in my mind but that he did hang himself.

"The cord he used was one that had been in his possession when he fled," Dr. Davis said. "It was a piece of rope which no one except a suicide would have thought of using. The man climbed upon one limb and attached the rope to another, immediately above the one on which he was sitting, tied a clumsy loop in it, and slid off.

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Ever Honorable in our dealing
[illegible]
faithfully relied upon.
Scarborough &

Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynchings.

3612

Lynchings—1932

Discussions

GREENSBORO, N. C.
NEWS

JAN 29 1932

MRS. AMES IS SPEAKER AT PALMER INSTITUTE

Atlanta Woman Urges Negroes to Seek Betterment As a Race and Not Selfishly.

(Special to Daily News)

Sedalia, Jan. 28.—Special exercises were held here today at Palmer Memorial institute to do honor to Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames, of Atlanta, one of the members of the Southern Conference of Women for the Prevention of Lynching.

The student body of the institute sang a number and then the Sedalia singers gave three numbers. Mrs. Ames then was introduced by Principal Charlotte Hawkins Brown.

Mrs. Ames, in a short address, stated that the negro, as an individual, in seeking today those liberties which rightfully are his should not be actuated by selfish personal motives but should think in terms of greater rights for the entire race. Illustrating her point, she cited Booker T. Washington as a member of the race who thought at all times in terms of his fellows, and whose work for the race transacended that of any other negro in its history.

Mrs. W. A. Newell, of Greensboro, was introduced and spoke briefly, praising the type of work which is being done for the training of negroes at Palmer institute.

'LYNCHLESS SOUTH' IS WOMEN'S GOAL

~~Times~~

Atlanta Meeting Closes With Aim to Enroll 13,000 Women in Movement During 1933.

~~11-20-32~~

ONLY 6 LYNCHINGS IN 1932

~~New York,~~

Four of These Were in the South and None in Mississippi, State of Much Violence in Past.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ATLANTA, Nov. 19.—"A lynchless South in 1933" was the goal set by the central council of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching, which closed its annual meeting here today.

Twelve States were represented at the meeting by twenty-four women active in various women's groups in the South.

Reporting on the results of the association's two years of work, Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames of Atlanta, executive director, said that more than 7,000 women had been enrolled as signed supporters of a program for eradication of mob violence; 1,300 towns and 575 counties are represented.

The movement has been endorsed by such organizations as the Council of Southern Methodist Women, the Southern Baptist Missionary Union, the National Council of Jewish Women, the Young Women's Christian Association, the State Federation of Women's Clubs, and other influential bodies.

Association officers were greatly encouraged to learn that only six lynchings had taken place in the United States so far this year, and only four of these in the South, the lowest number for any equal period in the fifty years for which records have been compiled.

The total number of recorded victims for the fifty years was 4,780 and for forty years the average was more than 100 a year, it was stated.

In Mississippi, where the association has been particularly active, there have been no lynchings for more than a year, although that State's Negro population is greater than any other State's. It has also had more recorded lynchings than any other.

"If Mississippi can have a lynchless year, a lynchless South is a possible and reasonable goal," said members of the council, as they laid plans to continue an aggressive campaign during 1933.

Earnest efforts will be made during the coming year to extend the organization into all counties of the Southern States, to obtain cooperation of leading women's organizations, and to enroll in the movement no fewer than 13,000 women.

Special efforts will be made to enlist women of influence in the small towns and rural communities where lynching most frequently occurs.

Fitzgerald, Ga., Herald
Tuesday, November 29. 1932

Georgia Association Against Lynching

Chapter For Prevention of Lynching In State Formed.

Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 26—Mrs. W. J. Neel, of the staff of Bessie Tift College, former president of the Woman's Missionary Union of the Georgia Baptist Convention, and one of the best known women in the state, has accepted the chairmanship of the Georgia Association for the Prevention of Lynching.

This Association, organized two years ago, now has a membership of more than twelve hundred Georgia women, most of them in positions of leadership in their respective communities and religious groups. Each has signed personally a statement denouncing mob violence, repudiating the claim that lynching is necessary for the protection of womanhood, and pledging the signers' earnest efforts to create a public opinion that will no longer tolerate the lynching habit.

The Georgia Association is a branch of the Southern Association of Women for the Prevention of Lynching, which has a total membership of more than seven thousand. "A lynchless year in 1933" is the announced goal of these organizations. Each of the seven thousand members has signed personally the following statement:

"We declare lynching is an indefensible crime destructive of all principles of government, hateful and hostile to every ideal of religion and humanity, debasing and degrading to every person involved. Public opinion has accepted too easily the claim of lynchers and mobsters that they were acting solely in the defense of womanhood. We repudiate this disgraceful claim for all time. We solemnly pledge ourselves to create a new public opinion in the South which will not condone acts of mobs or lynchers. We shall teach our children at home, at school, and at church a new interpretation of law and religion; we will assist all officials to uphold their oath of office; and finally we will join with every minister, editor, school teacher, and patriotic citizen in a program of education to eradicate lynching and mobs forever from our land."

SAN MATEO, CALIF
TIMES

DEC 14 1932

FOR A LYNCHLESS 1933

(San Francisco News)

The Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching ended its Atlanta meeting by announcing that in this year there have been only six lynchings in the United States, only four in the South.

This is a 50 year record low. The brutal and capricious decrees of lynch law have sent to sudden death 4780 persons in the past 50 years and for 40 years the average number of victims was 100 a year.

The women organizing in a dozen Southern states hope for "a lynchless South in 1933" Their hopes may be realized, since Mississippi, the nation's worst offender in the past, has not had a lynching in more than a year.

There are two forces at work to put an end to lynchings in this country. One is a growing determination of law officers and courts to halt the encroachment of mobs upon their prerogatives. The other is public opinion. When we become civilized we shall not hunt down our fellow humans in wolfish mobs.

Raleigh N. C. News and Observer
Friday, December 23. 1932

LYNCHLESS SOUTH FOR 1933 AIM OF WOMEN

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 22.—(UP)—Despite a threat of increased tenseness because of the economic situation, which has caused whites to demand replacement of Negro laborers with unemployed whites, the Central Council of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching has proclaimed "a lynchless South in 1933."

The 24 women from 12 states which met in annual conference here set that goal after receiving an official report that only six Negroes were lynched so far this year in the United States, only four of these in the South, the lowest number for any equal period during the 50 years in which records have been compiled.

More than 7000 women, representing 1300 towns and 575 counties, have enrolled in the association's movement to purge the South of mob violence, Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames, executive director of the organization, announced.

The 1932 10-months lynching record was cited as particularly remarkable in view of the fact that 4780 persons have been lynched during the period since recordings of such violence began, and that for 40 of those 50 years more than 100 victims met death annually.

BUFFALO, N. Y.
TIMES

DEC 17 1932

Menace of Lynching Dwindles in Dixie

Jackson (Miss.) Clarion-Ledger

Thus far in 1932 there have been only six lynchings in the United States, four of them in the south, compared with a 40-year average of 100 per year. If no lynchings are perpetrated between now and Jan. 1, this will be the lowest record in 50 years.

That's fine. It is a tribute to increasing development and recognition of public condemnation of this barbarism in all sections, a tribute to the forces working for complete abolition of lynching, and a compliment to the sheriffs of the nation.

Even if the perfect record is not achieved next year, the cheering 1932 record and the indisputable progress made in this Christian and humane movement to date, prove the practicability of the program.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL
CHRONICLE

DEC 10 1932

Whatever the Cause, Lynchings Fewer Every Year

Editor The Chronicle—Sir: An editorial in The Chronicle of December 2, under the caption, "Lynchless South in 1933," began: "It may be too much to say that the decrease in lynchings in the Southern States is due to the campaign waged against this type of mob violence by the women of the South, but it may have something to do with the results." Granted. It may have something to do with the results, but that "something" certainly could not be very much. For crimes by negroes (and particularly crimes against white women) have fallen off most markedly and this decrease began with the birth of prohibition, and to prohibition and to prohibition alone must be given the major credit for this most highly desirable change. A white woman who had spent many years in Africa and who returned to this country just in time to witness a very sensational lynching of a black man was shocked and horrified beyond words at this summary form of vengeance; she claimed that she as well as other white women in Africa went at will among camps of black men and never knew the meaning of the word "fear." The most abhorrent crimes of reds and blacks have been committed by drink-inflamed members of these races; drinks supplied by the white man.

San Francisco. Dec. 6. 1932. E. P. BRANDES.

Advance
TULARE
CAL.
ISSUE OF

DEC 10 1932

EDI

REPEALING THE LYNCH LAW IN 1933

The resort to lynch law is becoming less common as the years go ~~by in~~ the United States. The year 1932 has been, to date, a record breaker, the number for the 11 months being 6 only. The number has so nearly reached the vanishing point that The Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching, has adopted for a slogan, "A Lynchless South In 1933."

It is interesting in this connection to look at the records of the several states. Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Hampshire and New Jersey have no record of lynch law ever being appealed to. In the 40 years from 1889 to 1929, New York has had two lynchings, Pennsylvania 3, Michigan 5 and Minnesota 7.

California in that period had 34 lynchings, 30 of them being white. The worst offenders in this respect, of course, were the southern states, Georgia standing at the head of the list with 457 and Mississippi a close second with 448, the third place going to Texas with 346 and the next to Louisiana with 340 lynchings.

The total number of lynchings in the whole United States during that 40 years was 3,724, an average of 93 a year. Of the total number 813 were of the White race. These figures indicate the progress that has been made toward the extinction of this rough-and-ready mode of punishing offenders.

The origin of the phrase, Lynch law, seems to have come from Charles Lynch, a Virginia farmer, who died in 1796. He was said to have organized a nearly vigilance committee. Lynching seldom takes place in Europe and the people beyond the seas have pointed the finger of scorn at us for many years for the tolerance of such an unlawful practice. It has long been America's shame and everybody will be glad when it has been entirely blotted out as now seems possible at an early date.

Augusta, Ga., [illegible]
Friday, December 23, 1932

Lynchless Year Is Aim of Women

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 1. — Mrs. W. J. Neel, of the staff of Bessie Tift College, former president of the Woman's Missionary Union of the Georgia Baptist Convention, and one of the best-known women in the state, has accepted the chairmanship of the Georgia Association for the Prevention of Lynching.

This association, organized two years ago, now has a membership of more than 1,200 Georgia women, most of them in positions of leadership in their respective communities and religious groups. Each has signed personally a statement denouncing mob violence, repudiating the claim that lynching is necessary for the protection of womanhood, and pledging the signer's earnest efforts to create a public opinion that will no longer tolerate the lynching habit.

The Georgia association is a branch of the Southern Association of Women for the Prevention of Lynching, which has a total membership of more than 7,000. "A lynchless year in 1933," is the announced goal of these organizations. Each of the seven thousand members has signed personally the following statement:

"We declare lynching is an indefensible crime destructive of all principles of government, hateful and hostile to every ideal of religion and humanity, debasing and degrading to every person involved. Public opinion has accepted too easily the claim of lynchers and mobsters that they were acting solely in the defense of womanhood. We repudiate this disgraceful claim for all time. We solemnly pledge ourselves to create a new public opinion in the South which will not condone acts of mobs or lynchers. We shall teach our children at home, at school, and at church a new interpretation of law and religion; we will assist all officials to uphold their oath of office; and finally we will join with every minister, editor, school teacher, and patriotic citizen in a program of education to eradicate lynching and mobs forever from our land."

ROME, N. Y.
SENTINEL

DEC 23 1932

Reports on Lynchings Vary

In the latter part of November there was reviewed in these columns the action of the central council of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching, which adopted the slogan, "A lynchless South in 1933." The delegates were reported to be greatly encouraged on learning that only six lynchings had taken place up to that date in the United States in 1932, and only four of those in the South—"the lowest number for any equal period for which records have been compiled."

Yet now we have the assertion of the League of Struggle for Negro Rights declaring that lynchings have increased in 1932, with a general tendency on the part of public officials to conceal information in such cases. During the past year lynch law is asserted to have brought death to thirty-seven persons in "the United States and its possessions." Of these, 23 met death from bullets; 8 were hanged, 2 were shot and then drowned, one was beaten and drowned and two were beaten to death. Only two in the list were white men. So says the league, which is reputed to receive support from the Communist Party of America.

The difference between the statistics offered by the council of Southern women and by the league in question may be explained by the inclusion of our "possessions" in the one instance and not in the other and by possible dissimilarity in periods of time. There may also arise a distinction in the application of the term "lynching."

The dictionary defines it as the act of private individuals in visiting punishment without the forms of law, especially when a mob hangs a suspected person. That is broad enough to include any number of cases not commonly rated as lynchings by newspaper correspondents. If the Communists are out to gain converts among the Negroes they might use the broader definition to arouse ill will. For example the resistance by Negro farmers to officers and "possemen" in Alabama the other day, in which one or more Negroes are represented to have been slain at the same time four officers were wounded, might be rated as a lynching, though [illegible] whites only were involved in such an occurrence in a Northern state no one would ever think of applying the term.

Lynchings - 1932
6

Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynchings.

3613

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Discussions.

DALLAS, TEX.
NEWS

JAN 8 1932

Treat Lynchers as Murderers, Southern Women Ask of Public, Praising Texas Rangers' Work

Urging that public opinion be aroused to the point of treating lynchers as murderers, the Texas Council of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching adopted resolutions thanking peace officers of the State for their work in 1931, which was without a Texas lynching. The council met Thursday morning at the Baker Hotel.

"In the last year eighty-eight persons, including two white women, were saved from death at the hands of mobs," the resolutions point out. "This achievement reflects proudly upon the patriotism of Sheriffs and other authorities, but disgracefully upon the citizenship of the communities in which mob violence threatened. Lynching still exists as an unpunished crime."

The Governor, Adjutant General and the Texas rangers were specifically thanked for their work and copies of the resolutions will be sent all Texas Sheriffs, it was decided. A program of education to bring the public to regard the lyncher as a murderer was outlined by Mrs. Jessie Daniels Ames of Atlanta, director. The resolutions were presented by Mrs. Olivia Davis, Texas secretary, who pointed out that regardless of the last year's showing, Texas must not yet feel complacent about her mob violence record. Mrs. J. L. Brock of Bryan, chairman, presided.

Atlanta, Ga., Constitution
Sunday, January 17, 1932

ANTI-LYNCHING GROUP PRAISES SHERIFFS

Deep appreciation for Georgia's 1931 record of "no lynchings" was expressed Saturday in resolutions adopted at the second annual conference of the Georgia Association of Women for the Prevention of Lynching. Letters commending the sheriffs of Georgia for the 1931 record are being mailed to the law enforcement officers in all counties by the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching, it was announced.

The Georgia association called upon the governor, the sheriffs and all citizens to "bring to proper justice instigators of mob action who menace our state and defy our laws." The resolutions said that "proud as we are of Georgia's demanding jury trial for all persons threatened by violent death at the hands of mobs in 1931, we cannot but feel that the full protection of constituted and regularly established government, trials should be held under circumstances that would relieve the courts of any suspicion of being unduly influenced by mobs, and leaders of mob action against the sanctity of the law must be uncovered and punished."

Four times in Georgia last year mobs were frustrated in their desire for the blood of victims as they sought to defeat law and justice in the courts, the resolutions point out. In three instances the county sheriffs removed their prisoners beyond the reach of the frantic mass, and in Elbert county the state militia, with the courageous co-operation of local citizens, kept the mob at bay, the resolutions declare.

Present at the meeting were Mrs. E. Marvin Underwood, Julia Collier Harris, Mrs. J. N. McEachern, Mrs. M. E. Tilly, Mrs. Harry M. Gershon and Miss Janie McGaughey, of Atlanta; Mrs. W. A. Turner, of Newnan; Mrs. Willie Snow Etheridge, of Macon; Mrs. Audley Morton, of Athens; Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames, of Decatur, and Miss Elizabeth Head, of Decatur. Mrs. Turner is acting chairman of the Georgia group.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK.
GAZETTE

JAN 12 1932

WOMEN OPPOSED LYNCHING ORGANIZE

Mrs. J. P. Streepey Elected President and Miss Erle Chambers, Secretary.

Mrs. J. P. Streepey was elected chairman and Miss Erle Chambers, secretary, of the Arkansas Branch of the Association of Southern Women Opposed to Lynching at the organization meeting at the Woman's City Club yesterday, at which Mrs. Jesse Daniels Ames of Atlanta, field secretary of the Southern Inter-racial Commission, spoke.

Members of the Executive Committee include Mrs. I. N. Barnett and Mrs. J. W. Parse, both of Batesville, and Mrs. Percy R. Smith, Mrs. J. M. Flenniken, Mrs. D. D. Terry and Mrs. W. P. McDermott, all of Little Rock.

Mrs. Ames told approximately 30 women attending that less than 30 per cent of the lynchings in the South have been caused by offenses to women. She praised Arkansas' record.

Following an informal talk by Mrs. Ames at the luncheon, a round-table discussion was participated in by persons attending, including the Rev. J. B. Hunter and Rabbi Ira E. Sanders. Mrs. Streepey, as chairman of the temporary organization, presided at both the morning and luncheon meetings.

ATLANTA, GA.
CONSTITUTION

JAN 17 1932

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REDWOOD CITY, CALIF.
TRIBUNE

JAN 11 1932

WOMEN AND LYNCHING

A little over a year ago women of the South met at Atlanta and organized the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching. The organization, having completed one year of effective work, has reason to be pleased with the progress achieved in its brief career and, with a rapidly increasing membership, is laying plans to extend its influence into every county of the South.

At the outset of the movement the women declared their disavowal of the old assertion that the lynch-murderer is "the protector of Southern womanhood," and so made a deep and lasting impression on the public mind. They now repeat the declaration and make their plea for ordered justice as offering the only real protection to the weak and helpless.

That pronouncement, says the San Antonio Express, is a continual source of strength to the law officer in resisting a mob. And the women, in their lately-adopted resolutions reassert: 'Lynching is not alone the crime of the ignorant and irresponsible mobs; every citizen who condones it, even by his silence, must accept a share of its guilt."

The southern paper adds: "Then the association's problem is to arouse all decent citizens — men and women alike — to such a sense of responsibility. To accomplish that end would be to loose a powerful force which would deter the mob, prod the timorous official into preventive action—or else bring about the speedy punishment of supine law officer and mob-participant alike.

"Surely there is no more effective way of creating the needful sentiment than by enlisting every community's women leaders in this movement." — Oakland Tribune.

GREENSBORO, N. C.
RECORD

JAN 27 1932

ANTI-LYNCHING SESSION HELD

Miss Clara I. Cox Re-Elected President and Mrs. Hattie Weinberg Secretary

Miss Clara I. Cox, of High Point, and Mrs. Hattie S. Weinberg, Greensboro, president and secretary-treasurer, respectively, were re-elected at the second annual conference of the North Carolina Association for the Prevention of Lynching, held Wednesday in the county building. A goodly company of women were present for the discussions and keen interest was displayed in the movement.

In addition to the officers, 10 other members, including four committee chairmen, will compose the board of directors. This board is to meet at the call of the president. The members are Miss Gertrude Weill, Goldsboro, education; Miss Harriet Elliott, Greensboro, legislation; Mrs. W. A. Newell, Greensboro, co-operation; Miss Lisbeth Parrott, Raleigh, publicity; Mrs. Charles E. Maddry, Mrs. Charles Doak and Mrs. J. S. Holmes, Raleigh; Mrs. B. U. Brooks, Durham; Mrs. W. B. Lindsay, Charlotte; Mrs. F. W. Thomas, Asheville.

Mrs. Ames Speaks.

The principal address was by Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames, of Atlanta, Ga., executive director of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching, of which organization Mrs. W. A. Newell, of Greensboro, is secretary-treasurer. Mrs. Ames stressed the need for educating the people in the matter of law observance and law enforcement. She declared that most of the lynchings were by a class of citizens who have not been fully informed as to the higher ideals of citizenship and therefore do not recognize the guarantee of the constitution for a fair trial for all wrongdoers. It was pointed out that the old idea that lynchings were to protect womanhood was disproved by the fact that only one-sixth of the lynchings in the country were in cases where a woman had been assaulted.

Dr. Harry W. Crane, of Chapel Hill, who is connected with the state board of charities and correction stressed the need for an institution in which the negro mental defectives might have proper training and be segregated from others of the race. They could be so trained as to eliminate to a large extent certain types of offenses, the speaker argued.

Unique Organization.

In calling the meeting to order Miss Cox stressed the fact this was an unique organization, with no dues, and might more properly be termed a movement to build up sentiment for law enforcement and through educational channels create a respect for and obedience to law that would forestall all possibility of lynching in the future.

It was announced that no legislation would be sought as it was felt the goal sought could not be attained via the legislative route. Instead the organization plans to function through civic clubs and other organizations of women in creating a sentiment to dispel lynching propaganda should at any time such be spread. The following pledge will be circulated by club women throughout the state:

Text of Pledge.

We, the undersigned women believe that the crime of lynching undermines all ideals of government and religion which we hold sacred and which we try by our lives and our conduct to implant into the minds of our youth. We recognize that all lynching will be defended so long as the public generally accepts the assumption that it is for the protection of white women. We hold that we owe it not only to our own times, but to posterity to repudiate the acts of mobs and lynchers and to declare that if the constitution, our law, our courts cannot protect women, then our civilization is a travesty and our religion is a mockery. We pledge ourselves to arouse public opinion to the menace of the crime of lynching by educating the youth of our own communities to an understanding of the consequences of such lawless acts, by calling upon press, pulpit, schools, and every patriotic citizen to join us in a campaign against such violations of law and civilization and the teachings of religion.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.
OBSERVER

JAN 2 7 1932

COUNCIL ON LYNCHING PLANS MEETING TODAY

GREENSBORO, Jan. 26.—(AP)—North Carolina Council of Women for the Prevention of Lynching will meet in annual session at the county courthouse in Greensboro at 10:30 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames of Atlanta, Ga., director of the Southern Council of Women for the Prevention of Lynching, will deliver an address at the meeting. The session will be in charge of the chairman of the council, Miss Clara Cox of High Point. It is expected that representative women from various sections of North Carolina will be present. Interested women are invited to attend the meeting.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK.
GAZETTE

JAN 8 1932

GROUP TO OPPOSE LYNCHING PLANNED

Atlanta Organizer to Meet With Little Rock Women Monday.

Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames of Atlanta, field secretary of the Southern Interracial Commission, will be in Little Rock Monday to assist in arranging a permanent organization for this state of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching, Mrs. John P. Streepey, temporary chairman of the state branch, said last night.

A meeting has been called by Mrs. Streepey for 11 a. m. Monday at the Woman's City Club, and women wishing to make reservation for the luncheon at 12:30 have been requested to telephone the club.

Members of the Ministerial Alliance and their wives have been invited to attend, and other civic and social welfare workers are expected.

Mrs. W. P. McDermott, Mrs. Curtis Stout, Mrs. W. E. Bass, Mrs. C. H. Thorpe and Miss Erle Chambers are members of the Committee on Arrangements. Members of the Central Council are Mrs. David D. Terry, Mrs. J. M. Flenniken, Mrs. McDermott, Mrs. Streepey and Miss Chambers.

GREENSBORO, N. C.
NEWS

JAN 2 8 1932

EDUCATION IS SEEN AS CURE FOR LYNCHINGS

Group, Meeting Here, Adopts Pledge to Arouse Opinion Against Mobs.

OFFICERS RE-ELECTED

Pledging themselves to carry sentiment against lynching over the state and to educate for its abolition through the schools, churches, press, and other organizations, the North Carolina Association for the Prevention of Lynching met here yesterday morning for its second annual conference. The meeting was held in the county courthouse.

Around 25 women were present, including a number of out-of-town members. Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames, of the Southern Commission for Interracial Co-operation, of Atlanta, who is executive secretary of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching, was the chief speaker.

Miss Clara I Cox, of High Point, chairman of the group, presided, and was re-elected to serve during the coming year. Mrs. Hattie S. Weinberg, of Greensboro, was re-elected secretary.

In addition to the officers, 10 other members, including four committee chairmen, will compose the board of directors. This board is to meet at the call of the president. The members are Miss Gertrude Weill, Goldsboro, education; Miss Harriet Elliott, Greensboro, legislation; Mrs. W. A. Newell, Greensboro, co-operation; Miss Lisbeth Parrott, Raleigh, publicity; Mrs. Charles E. Maddry, Mrs. Charles Doak and Mrs. J. S. Holmes, Raleigh; Mrs. B. U. Brooks, Durham; Mrs. W. B. Lindsay, Charlotte; Mrs. F. W. Thomas, Asheville.

The Association for the Prevention of Lynching has neither dues nor definite membership or organization, it was pointed out yesterday. The entire goal is to enlist interest in the abolition of lynching to the end that the south will no longer be guilty of mob violence and its disrespect for law and order.

"It is not the saving of individual lives that we are so much interested in as the upholding of law and order to the end that justice may prevail," declared Mrs. Ames in addressing the group. "Justice may happen, in cases of mob violence," she said, "but mob violence offers opportunity for private revenge, and is a flagrant denial of the rights provided by our constitution—that each person, regardless of race, creed, or class, is entitled to trial by jury and guaranteed protection of life, liberty, and property."

Mrs. Ames urged that the greatest power of any group seeking to eradicate lynching lies in education. "We are not proposing to set up any new organization, but to work through existing organizations. State councils in 12 of the 13 southern states are already at work enlisting sentiment for the prevention of lynching."

The following pledge was signed by the group present and will be presented for signatures to women over the state by the association:

"We, the undersigned women believe that the crime of lynching undermines all ideals of government and religion which we hold sacred and which we try by our lives and our conduct to implant into the minds of our youth. We recognize that all lynching will be defended so long as the public generally accepts the assumption that it is for the protection of white women. We hold that we owe it not only to our own times, but to posterity to repudiate the acts of mobs and lynchers and to declare that if the constitution, our law, our courts cannot protect women, then our civilization is a travesty and our religion is a mockery. We pledge ourselves to arouse public opinion to the menace of the crime of lynching by educating the youth of our own communities to an understanding of the consequences of such lawless acts, by calling upon press, pulpit, schools, and every patriotic citizen to join us in a campaign against such violations of law and civilization and the teachings of religion."

HIGH POINT, N. C.
ENTERPRISE

JAN 2 7 1932

Miss Cox Is Again Named President Of Anti-Lynching Group

GREENSBORO, Jan. 27.—(AP) The North Carolina Association for the Prevention of Lynching held its second annual conference here today.

Miss Clara I. Cox of High Point, and Mrs. Hattie S. Weinburg of Greensboro, were re-elected president and secretary-treasurer respectively.

Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames of Atlanta, Ga., executive director of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching, stressed the need for educating people in law observance in the meeting's principal address.

WINSTON SALEM, N. C.
SENTINEL

JAN 2 8 1932

MISS COX ELECTED BY ANTI-LYNCHERS

Greensboro (AP).—Miss Clara Cox, of High Point, and Mrs. Hattie S. Weinberg, of Greensboro, were re-elected president and secretary-treasurer, respectively, of the North Carolina Council of Women for the Prevention of Lynching at the second annual session of the council here yesterday.

The board of directors is composed of the officers, together with Miss Gertrude Weill, Goldsboro, chairman of the committee on education; Miss Harriet Elliott, Greensboro, chairman of committee on legislation; Mrs. W. A. Newell, Greensboro, chairman of committee on co-operation; Miss Lisbeth Parrott, Raleigh, chairman of committee on publicity; Mrs. Charles E. Maddry, Mrs. Charles Doak and Mrs. J. S. Holmes, Raleigh; Mrs. B. U. Brooks, Durham; Mrs. W. B. Lindsay, Charlotte; Mrs. F. W. Thomas, Asheville.

Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames, of Atlanta, executive director of the Southern Council of Women for the Prevention of Lynching, was the chief speaker at the meeting here. It was agreed that the organization working through civic clubs and other groups of women will seek signatures on a pledge "to arouse public opinion to the menace of the crime of lynching." This is to be accomplished by an educational campaign.

GREENSBORO, N. C.
NEWS

JAN 2 0 1932

Lynching Problem Will Be Studied At Conference Here

Call has been issued here by Mrs H. S. Weinburg for the second annual conference of the North Carolina Council of Women for the Prevention of Lynching, to be held January 27 at the Guilford courthouse, at 10:30 o'clock in the morning.

It is expected that many women from various sections of the state will be present, as well as a number of other interested persons. The session will be open to the public. The conference is affiliated with the southern body which is working for the elimination of lynching.

The local meeting will be addressed by Mrs. Jessie D. Ames, of Atlanta executive director of the women's southern group.

DALLAS, TEX.
NEWS

JAN 2 3 1932

LONE STAR CRIME RECORD AND THAT OF TAMMANY LAND

To The News:

The Texas Council of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching has recently held a meeting in Dallas. It is encouraging to note that this group of women is particularly interested in making better conditions in our own section rather than dwelling on the evils that exist in other sections. The evil that others do never makes us better.

There are politicians in Texas who have tried to ride into office on the demerits of a political organization 2,000 miles away. And there are people in Texas who call themselves Anti-Tammany Democrats. But being anti-Tammany does not prevent lynchings and other serious offenses against society in our own State.

Tammany is a political organization, and a controlling factor not only in the city of New York, but in the State also. It is not my purpose to defend it, but, by comparison, to call attention to some of the untoward conditions in our own State that should engage the attention of thoughtful men and women.

In the years 1889 to 1929 there were only two persons lynched in the State of New York, one negro and one white. In Texas for the same period there were 346 lynchings, fifty-nine whites and 287 negroes. This difference is seen to be doubly great when we consider the greater population of New York.

Consider the crime of murder. Dallas has more than three times as many murders, acording to population, as Tammany's big city of New York; El Paso and Houston each nearly four times as many.

Moreover, the divorce evil in Texas is alarming; and Dallas County seems to have suffered more than other parts of the State. Because of the 1929 wedding law that caused many persons to go out of the State to be married, the record appears somewhat worse than it really is. But going back to the year 1928 before the time of this law, we find that Texas had about five times as many divorces, according to the number of marriages, as New York.

A recapitulation, then, shows that Texas has 176 times as many lynchings, 3 to 4 times as many murders, and 5 times as many divorces as New York. And to this we may add the information that Texas has much more illiteracy. So, without condoning the sins of Tammany, we shall do well this year to correct, as far as possible, the evils that are rampant in our own State, and to frown upon the efforts of those persons who try to turn Texas again into the Republican ranks with their anti-Tammany flapdoodle.

JOSEPH B. HADEN.
Ladonia, Texas.

Lynchings-1932
Discussions

Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching.

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FORT WORTH, TEX.
PRESS

NOV 28 1932

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Some Women Make Mistake Of Joining Too Many Clubs In the Busy Age of Today

They've Now Banded Themselves Together For New Cause, the Eradication Of Mob Violence

By **EDITH ALDERMAN GUEDRY**
Press Woman's Page Editor

WOMEN can always find a new cause to band themselves together for. They already have a perfect network of leagues, leagues for peace, leagues for temperance, good government, charity, child welfare.

MRS. GUEDRY

But now we find women banding themselves together for a new cause, the eradication of mob violence. And we have what is known as the Central Council of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching.

The roster of the organizations list 7000 names. Leaders have as their goal the extending of the membership into 1282 counties of the Southern States. And their motto is "A Lynchless South in 1933." A good motto it is. That's true.

But women, it seems, have organized themselves into too many different groups in recent years.

There are so many different women's organizations in every community that the woman anxious to do some worthwhile work must find it hard to decide which one or ones to align herself with.

And many a woman today makes the mistake of joining too many organizations. As a result many women's organizations do not go forward as they should, simply because they list so many inactive members. Women's clubs are full of drones. In fact in nearly every group only 10 per cent can be classed as workers. The others, except for paying their dues, might better be classed as honorary members.

* * *

JANE ADDAMS says that women's competitive struggle with men has been so long a part of women's entrance into business that it has taken the energy they should have put into business.

"We could eliminate the element of wasted effort," she says, "if women might bring into business an enormously needed spirit. I should like to see them try it. I should like to see them interested in taking care of people, of clothing and feeding them, rather than the purely profit-making side of business."

It always seems strange that some women strive so hard to compete with men. They lose all other objectives in their one struggle of trying to "beat the men."

Women have a different mission from men to perform in life, in business the same as in the home. They must fit themselves into entirely different niches.

For women to try to run a race with men on the same racetrack always seems quite ridiculous.

Mount Airy, N. C. Times
Wednesday, November 23, 1932

A WORTHY GOAL—IF POSSIBLE

A woman's organization for the prevention of lynching, representing twelve states, met in Atlanta the other day and drafted as its program for the next year the eradication of the lawless action of mobs in the brutal murder of suspects and guilty ones, usually members of the negro race, and adopted as its slogan "a lynchless south in 1933."

Basing their hopes on the fact that there had been only four lynchings in the south during the year 1932 up to the time of the gathering, the association made ambitious plans to wipe out the blot during the new year. The south has come in for much criticism, some of which is just and some that is unjust, because of its lynching record. A vigorous fight against this summary and lawless method of disposing of alleged criminals, on the part of the southern newspapers and law-respecting leaders has sharply curbed the number of lynchings in recent years.

However, hardly had the association mentioned above set its goal and adopted the ambitious slogan when news comes from Winnsboro, Louisiana, that a negro was lynched in that place Sunday, he having been taken from the sheriff who had arrested the man on the charge of having insulted a white woman. Without minimizing the respect due a white woman, or a female of any race for that matter, this family journal cannot help but offer the opinion that the taking of a life, no matter how lowly the possessor may be, on the strength of a complaint or suggestion without necessary proof of harm committed, shows the violence and lawlessness of a community dominant to a degree that is deserving of the most careful investigation and the most severe condemnation on the part of those who respect the law and expect justice in its administration.

A WORTHY AMBITION

Pittsburgh Courier
12-10-32
Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Association of White Women for the Prevention of Lynching is an outstanding American institution. The fact that through its influence, Mississippi, the champion of the Lynching League, has only one lynching registered against it this year, and this one occurred during the closing month of the year, speaks convincingly of the effectiveness of this organization as an apostle of law observance.

Under such leadership the Far South will soon become civilized. In commenting upon the work of a Mrs. Stephen, one of the leaders of the association in Mississippi, a C. M. E. prelate expresses the sentiment of the Negroes of this country as follows:

> "Negroes deeply appreciate the attitude of such women as Mrs. Stephens throughout the country and the South. A new day has dawned in the South when such outstanding women throughout the South get together on lynching or any other transgression of the law. It would be a fine thing if there were something done by Southern white women about the suppression of crime against Negro women on the part of white men. I venture the statement that there are one hundred white men of the South who commit crime against Negro women to every one Negro man who commits crime against white women."

The aim of the association to make 1933 a lynchless year is a worthy ambition.

CINCINNATI, O.
POST

DEC 9 1932

For a Lynchless 1933

THE ASSOCIATION of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching ended its Atlanta meeting by announcing that in this year there have been only six lynchings in the United States, only four in the south.

This is a 50-year record low. The brutal decrees of lynch law have sent to sudden death 4780 persons in the past 50 years and for 40 years the average number of victims was 100 a year.

The women organizing in a dozen states hope for "a lynchless south in 1933." Their hopes may be realized, since Mississippi, the nation's worst offender in the past, has not had a lynching in more than a year.

There are two forces at work to put an end to lynchings in this country. One is a growing determination of law officers and courts to halt the encroachment of mobs upon their prerogatives. The other is public opinion. When we become civilized we shall not hunt down our fellow humans in wolfish mobs.

Rocky Mount, N .C., News
Saturday, November 26, 1932

TWIN BARBARIANS

Saturday in Atlanta women representing twelve Southern States began a campaign which they hoped would bring the South through 1933 without a single lynching. They were encouraged by the fact that until then only six lynchings had occurred in 1932, and only four of these were in the South.

On Sunday on a roadside near Winnsboro, La., the body of a Negro, who had been charged with insulting two white women, was found hanging from a tree riddled with bullets.

This new act of barbarism detracts in no way from the nobleness of purpose of the movement begun at Atlanta. But it does emphasize the fact that to end lynching is a long and difficult task. There must be built a courageous sense of responsibility in the law officers o. the South, and lynchers, under the law's sterm hand, must be brought to a true understanding of the majesty of the law.

Those who commit lynchings in the South, as elsewhere, are themselves a brutish element in a law-abiding people. Few of them ever hear of such a movement as that in Atlanta to cure the South of the ugliest and most cowardly of its crimes. And in a lynching party the lowest and most cowardly mind becomes the mind of the mob.

The cure of lynching, like the cure of any other crime, lies in both bringing swift justice to the criminals and in building an enlightened public indignation against the crime.

The Southern lyncher and the city gangster are twin barbaric figures in a civilized land.—Raleigh News and Observer.

Lenoir, N. C. News-Topic
Monday, December 12. 1932

Lynchless South Is Objective Now

RALEIGH—"A lynchless South in 1933" is the aim of the centra council of the Association o Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching, which met in Atlanta recently and announced its determination to try to eradicate lynching and all forms of mob violence, as described by Miss Lisbeth Parrott, director of publicity of the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare, in a radio talk recently.

Refuting the claim that lynching is a thing of the past in North Carolina, Miss Parrott recalled that in 1930 a mob formed in Edgecombe county, seized a negro, hung him to a tree and riddled his body with bullets. This, she said, was the first lynching in North Carolina a number of years

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COLUMBUS, O.
DISPATCH

DEC 28 1932

"A Lynchless South"

IN THE Sunny South is an organization of women formed for the sole purpose of preventing the crime of lynching. The executive council of this association, composed of two women from each of 12 states, met in Atlanta last week, and listened to the official report that only six Negroes had been lynched so far in the United States this year, and two of these cases were not in the South.

This is the lowest number in any year of the 50 since the record has been kept, and in 40 of those 50 years, more than 100 victims of this form of murder had been recorded each year. Pleased with the progress of the past few years, these women have adopted as their slogan for the next 12 months, "A Lynchless South in 1933."

This shows their spirit, but they need not consider that they have failed if, in spite of all that they and other agencies can do, a few lynchings should occur. The spirit of the South in general has undergone a great change in this matter, or the record of but six lynchings in one year would have been impossible. Sporadic crimes, of any nature or any degree of brutality, will now and then occur in any state; and the South, while regretting even a sporadic case, will not be held by any fair-minded person as subject to any regional reproach if now and then a sporadic case of lynching shall occur.

Hendersonville, N. C. Times
Tuesday, December 27, 1932

LYNCHLESS SOUTH IS COMING YEAR'S HOPE

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 27. (UP) Despite a threat of increased tenseness because of the economic situation, which has caused whites to demand replacement of negro laborers with unemployed whites, the Central Council of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching has proclaimed "a lynchless south in 1933."

The 24 women from 12 states which met in annual conference here set that goal after receiving an official report that only six negroes were lynched so far this year in the United States, only four of these in the South, the lowest number for any equal period during the 50 years in which records have been compiled.

More than 7,000 women, representing 1,300 towns and 575 counties, have enrolled in the association's movement to purge the South of mob violence, Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames, executive director of the organization, announced.

The 1932 10-months lynching record was cited as particularly remarkable in view of the fact that 4,780 persons have been lynched during the period since recordings of such violence began, and that for 40 of those 50 years more than 100 victims met death annually.

Lynchings-1932
Discussions

Association of Southern Wo for the Prevention of Lynching.

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TOLEDO, O.
NEWS BEE
NOV 29 1932

For a Lynchless 1933

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This is a 50-year record low. The brutal and capricious decrees of lynch law have sent to sudden death 4780 persons in the past 50 years and for 40 years the average number of victims was 100 a year.

The women organizing in a dozen southern states hope for "a lynchless south in 1933." Their hopes may be realized, since Mississippi, the nation's worst offender in the past, has not had a lynching in more than a year.

There are two forces at work to put an end to lynchings in this country. One is a growing determination of law officers and courts to halt the encroachment of mobs upon their prerogatives. The other is public opinion. When we become civilized we shall not hunt down our fellow humans in wolfish mobs.

Louisville, Miss., Journal
Friday, December [illegible], 1932

According to the Jackson News, a roup of Southern women have adopted he slogan: "A Lynchless South in 1933." hese women must intend going after the ourts, the Juries and the Governors with ot stuff, for therein lies the trouble, and o long as these authorities stick to their ld game, all the slogans in the world will ot destroy practically the only sure punishment now in existence.

ITHACA, N. Y.
JOURNAL NEWS
NOV 29 1932

'A Lynchless' South'

Women of the South are organizing to stamp out lynching. They have adopted a slogan, "A Lynchless South in 1933," and they will do all in their power to make this slogan come true.

Many lynchings in the South have been perpetrated in the name of protection of womanhood, but the Southern women believe that lynching is a stain which should be removed from the Southland. They are taking steps to stamp out lynching. They call upon the men of the South to help them overcome "lynch law."

At a recent meeting of the Central Council of Southern Women 12 states were represented and delegates were present from nearly every organization of women in the South. It was announced that already 7,000 women have pledged their support to the movement against lynching and it is expected to enroll 5,000 more women in this cause.

It is a great work these women are doing and they deserve support. Lynching has decreased but every lynching that takes place is a blot on the fair name of the people. It is significant that the women of the South have taken up a determined battle in the interest of law and order.

ELMIRA, N. Y.
STAR-GAZETTE
NOV 29 1932

'A LYNCHLESS SOUTH'

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It is a great work these women are doing and they deserve support. Lynching has decreased but every lynching that takes place is a blot on the fair name of the people. It is significant that the women of the South have taken up a determined battle in the interest of law and order.

Fayetteville, N. C. Observer
Tuesday, December 6, 1932

The Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching is planning to extend its educational program further into the Southern States during the coming year and already 373 women in North Carolina have become affiliated with the movement, it was announced today by the offices of the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare.

The movement against mob violence was launched two years ago by a small group of women who have interested 7,000 women in the cause, it was pointed out at a recent meeting of the Central Council of the Southern Association in Atlanta, which was attended by several North Carolina women. The purpose of the group is to work for law observance and to present the united co-operation of Southern women to those in charge of enforcement of the laws, with the view to eradicating mob violence from the South.

During the coming year, many North Carolina church and civic organizations will be asked to endorse the following declaration:

"We declare lynching is an indefensible crime destructive of all principles of government, hateful and hostile to every idea of religion and humanity, debasing and degrading to every person involved. Though lynchings are not confined to any one section of the United States, we are aroused by the record which discloses our heavy responsibility for the presence of this crime in our country. We believe that this record has been achieved because public opinion has accepted too easily the claim of lynchers and mobsters that they were acting solely in the defense of womanhood. In the light of facts, women dare not longer permit the claim to pass unchallenged nor allow themselves to be the cloak behind which those bent upon personal revenge and savagery commit acts of violence and lawlessness in the name of women. We repudiate this disgraceful claim for all time."

LYNCHBURG, VA
ADVANCE
NOV 21 1932

A LYNCHLESS YEAR

A group of Southern women, representing twelve Southern States, have naugurated a campaign they hope will oring the South through the coming year without a single lynching. Their motto will be: "A Lynchless South in 1933."

The hopes of the sponsors of the movement are based upon encouraging signs. So far this year only six lynchings have occurred in the forty-eight States, four being in the South. Mississippi, where the Negro population is greater than in any other commonwealth, has not had a lynching for more than [illegible] year, which leads the women to say that "if Mississippi can have a lynchless year, a lynchless South is a possible and reasonable goal."

The Advance wishes the Southern women success in their undertaking. A lynchless year in the Southern States would remove some of the stain that has darkened the escutcheon of the South by reason of past mob outbreaks. While this section is not alone in lawless acts, yet unfortunately the South's crimes have received far more public attention than have the criminal activities in the other sections where disorders usually result in wholesale killings and not the putting to death of the single fiend who is responsible for a crime.

"A lynchless South in 1933" is a worth-while goal and every lover of the South should cooperate with those who are seeking th[illegible]

ATLANTA, GA.
CONSTITUTION
NOV 30 1932

MRS. [illegible]EEL HEADS STATE ASSOCIATION AGAINST LYNCHING

Mrs. W. J. Neel, of the staff of Bessie Tift College, former president of the Woman's Missionary Union of the Georgia Baptist convention, and one of the best-known women in the state, has accepted the chairmanship of the Georgia Association for the Prevention of Lynching.

This association, organized two years ago, now has a membership o

more than 1,200 Georgia women, most of them in positions of leadership in their respective communities and religious groups. Each has signed personally a statement denouncing mob violence, repudiating the claim that lynching is necessary for the protection of womanhood, and pledging the signer's earnest efforts to create a public opinion that will no longer tolerate the lynching habit.

The Georgia association is a branch of the Southern Association of Women for the Prevention of Lynching which has a total membership of more than 7,000. "A lynchless year in 1933" is the announced goal of these organizations.

Commonweal — N.Y.

NOV 30 1932

"A Lynchless South in 1933"

THAT truly liberal and social-minded group, the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching, has just terminated, in Atlanta, an annual convention in which the most heartening statistics for fifty years were read and discussed. During the present year, only four lynchings have taken place in the South, and only six in the whole country. This is low record for the half-century covered by written reports, and its relation to the average of forty of those fifty years—over one hundred a year—is a piece of astonishing good news. The key state of the South in this tragic matter has always been Mississippi, with the densest Negro population and the highest number of lynchings. And Mississippi has been lynchless in 1932. The Association, which includes more than seven thousand women, representing 12 states, 575 counties, 1,300 towns, has done excellent work in the past few years, work which has been noted with respect in these columns before this. It has organized, protested, effected contacts with all the existing women's groups that can express social conscience or wield social power. And chiefly, it has pioneered in the brave business of penetrating public opinion with the fact that Southern white women regard with horror and repudiation the tradition of lynching as a "protection" to themselves. A very large share of the progress away from the inhumanity and disgrace of lynching must, without doubt, be ascribed to this association. The central committee announces that it will try to make 1933 the year of "a lynchless South." Every decent citizen in the country must applaud and uphold this purpose in any positive way that is possible.

MEMPHIS, TENN.
PRESS-SCIMITAR

NOV 28 1932

For a Lynchless 1933

The Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching ended its Atlanta meeting by announcing that in 1932 there have been only six lynchings in the United States, only four in the South.

This is a 50-year record low. The brutal and capricious decrees of lynch law have sent to sudden death 4780 persons in the past 50 years and for 40 years the average number of victims was 100 a year.

The women organizing in a dozen Southern states hope for "a lynchless South in 1933." Their hopes may be realized, since Mississippi, the nation's worst offender in the past, has not had a lynching in more than a year.

There are two forces at work to put an end to lynchings in this country. One is a growing determination of law officers and courts to halt the encroachment of mobs upon their prerogatives. The other is public opinion. When we become civilized we shall not hunt down our fellow humans in wolfish mobs.

Ashburn, Ga., [illegible] Farmer
Thursday, December [illegible]

Mrs. Neel Heads State Association Against Lynching

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RALEIGH, N. C.
NEWS OBSERVER

NOV 22 1932

TWIN BARBARIANS

On Saturday in Atlanta women representing twelve Southern States began a campaign which they hoped would bring the South through 1933 without a single lynching. They were encouraged by the fact that until then only six lynchings had occurred in 1932, and only four of these were in the South.

On Sunday on a roadside near Winnsboro, La., the body of a Negro, who had been charged with "insulting" two white women, was found hanging from a tree riddled with bullets.

This new act of barbarism detracts in no way from the nobleness of purpose of the movement begun at Atlanta. But it does emphasize the fact that to end lynching is a long and difficult task. There must be built a courageous sense of responsibility in the law officers of the South, and lynchers, under the law's stern hand, must be brought to a true understanding of the majesty of the law.

Those who commit lynchings in the South, as elsewhere, are themselves a brutish element in a law-abiding people. Few of them ever hear of such movements as that in Atlanta, to cure the South of the ugliest and most cowardly of its crimes. And in a lynching party the lowest and most cowardly mind becomes the mind of the mob.

The cure of lynching, like the cure of any other crime, lies in both bringing swift justice to the criminals and in building an enlightened public indignation against the crime.

The Southern lyncher and the city are twin barbaric figures in a civilize

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INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
TIMES

NOV 28 1932

For a Lynchless 1933

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This is a fifty-year record low. The brutal and capricious decrees of lynch law have sent to sudden death 4,780 persons in the last fifty years and for forty years the average number of victims was 100 a year.

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Mercury
Pottstown Pa

DEC 3 1932

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Commission on Inter-racial Cooperation Survey of Lynching

Lynchings-1932

3614

Discussion.

Chattanooga, Tenn.
NEWS

JAN 28 1932

MUST ALTER VIEW TO END MOB LAW, MILTON DECLARES

Lynching Study Commission Head Outlines Findings at Rotary Meeting.

Machinery of the law must be quickened and given life and there must be reorganization of the social viewpoint in the South if the lynching problem is to be solved, George Fort Milton, president and editor of The News, stated Thursday in addressing the Chattanooga Rotary club.

Mr. Milton, who is chairman of the Southern Commission to Study Lynchings, reviewed briefly the work of the commission in studying and formulating conclusions on the lynchings in the South. Supporting his indictment of lynchings, Mr. Milton summarized the main conclusions of the commission's report, which were as follows:

1. Two of the twenty-one persons lynched in 1930 were certainly innocent, and eleven others possibly so.

2. Fewer than one-fourth of the persons lynched since 1890 have been accused of attacks upon white women.

3. The claim that lynchings are necessary because courts do not convict Negroes for their crimes is untrue.

4. Although mob leaders can be identified without difficulty, grand jury indictments are seldom brought against them.

5. The rate of lynchings per 10,000 of Negro population is highest in sparsely settled areas.

6. There is a direct relation between lack of education, low economic status and prevalence of lynchings.

Whatever excuses are made for lynchings, they are, in the opinion of Mr. Milton, "naught other than a relapse into the jungle era of man's development."

Lynching Inexcusable.

"Whenever a lynching has occurred, one can say one thing definitely: The crust of civilization has given way to the blind anger of the animal," Mr. Milton declared. "Of all present southern social phenomena, the tendency to resort to lynch law for the punishment [illegible] alleged crimes of Negro offenders is the most dangerous and the most inexcusable.

"If we have any conscience and any ethical integrity, we can neither ignore nor palliate a lynching. It would seem the clear duty of every intelligent southerner to make effective protest against these sadistic orgies of our mobs."

The Commission on Interracial Cooperation viewed with alarm the "sudden upsurge of these branches of civilized society" which occurred in 1930, and determined upon two definite projects to meet the situation, Mr. Milton said. One of the projects was the organization of the Southern Association of Women for the Prevention of Lynching, and the other was the creation of the Southern Commission to Study Lynching. The latter was for the purpose of making a study of the fundamental causes underlying resorts of mob violence, and inquiry into the psychology of mobs and the technique of lynchings, Mr. Milton observed.

Mr. Milton reviewed in brief the work of this commission of which he was named chairman. He gave instances of case study of lynching and the conclusions of the commission's investigators.

Speed Law Machinery.

"Obviously, solution of the lynching problem calls for two different types of action," Mr. Milton continued, "first, the machinery of the law must be quickened and given life, both to prevent threatened lynching and, when they are not prevented, to bring due penalty upon their perpetrators. The legal section of the commission has been working along these lines, and a few months hence the commission expects to be able to make a further report, describing the actual administration of the laws relating to lynching, and making practical suggestions as to how they can be made operative and effective.

"Among other things, the legal staff is now considering the possibility of the extension of the injunctive process with its resultant contempt of court powers to cover threatened lynchings. Could this be done, anyone who interfered with the orderly process of the law would be in contempt of court and would thereby become subject to summary sentence without jury interposition.

"Other devices being considered include the imposition of money fines upon counties in which lynchings occur, the summary removal of sheriffs and other peace officers who have proved derelict in their prevention of lynchings, automatic changes of venue for the state in every trial of men accused of lynching, and the instrumentation of prosecution by creating state grand juries to return indictments, and state-appointed legal staffs to prosecute. The commission's legal staff hopes also to be able to present the draft of an antilynching statute which could be uniformly adopted by the various states, and thus equip them with the legal machinery to make effective the growing wish to abolish lynch law.

Change Viewpoint.

"But the more important phase of the problem, after all, is the reorganization of the social viewpoint of the south, so that justice, rather than hysteria, hate and fear, will control the adjudication of responsibility for crime. This involves a long and tedious process. It involves the betterment of economic conditions of our underprivileged areas and communities. It involves substituting satisfaction and contentment for hunger and heartbreak in such places as Ocilla, Ailey and Darien. It involves the reeducation of our people. In the world today, H. G. Wells has said, there is a race between education and catastrophe. He believes the world will find a way to educate its citizens into intelligence and good will, and so our civilization will endure. Certainly if we are to put an end to these extraordinary outrages against the dignity of civilized life, this process is called for in the south."

Gen. John F. O'Ryan of the American Airways was a guest of the club and made a brief talk. He was introduced by Dr. Alex Guerry. The Rotarians were entertained by Mrs. Nelle Belding of Canton, O., who sang. She was accompanied at the piano by her sister, Mrs. W. O. McCord of this city.

Lynchings-1932
6.
Discussions.

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Negro Press, (Northern).
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INSULT OF OUR WOMEN CAUSES NO RIPPLE IN THE DAY'S NEWS

1-26-32

Md. Mother says Chivalry Doesn't Mean Respect for Whites Only.

SOUTH ALONE IS NOT TO BLAME

North also Regards Colored Girls as "Prey."

By VICTORIA CONSTANCE
(An American Mother)

SALISBURY, Md. — The recent lynching in Maryland, the approaching trial of Euel Lee, and finally the alleged lynching of a native, following outrages in Honolulu, make it impossible for educated colored people to continued indefinitely, a program of "watchful waiting," or of silent waiting.

Race difficulties are the difficulties of two or more races—not of one. Logic is the orderly arrangement of thought— not of white thought. Solutions, when found, will be the logical, consistent solutions of the mature minds of all races involved—not of one.

The opinion, then of one, herself colored, who is willing to look all facts in the face, should be of more than passing interest to all sober, public-spirited citizens who are willing to do the same. Our common community will only be helped by those who are willing to recognize some very simple, but very definite truths.

Young America, white and black, is one day going to have to learn the rudiments of chivalry. This does not mean flourishing a gun and talking wild-eyed about the honor of white women. It means learning from the cradle up, that **womanhood** — not **white womanhood** — just **WOMANHOOD**, is sacred.

Sex Offenses

No sane person would condone any of the sex offenses of members of our race or of any of the other colored races. But likewise, no sane person should condone the sex offenses of white men toward the women of these same races. That the latter flourish under "American chivalry," is a common-place, easily supportable by data.

How do I, a black woman (racially), react to these tales of outrages against white women? I feel first of all, sorrow, very deep sorrow. Then, as instance after instance of the rape of colored women by white men—seldom ever punished—passes across my mind, I feel a grave sort of sorrow that the other outrages fail to inspire.

Grandfather Lynched

I remember, for instance, the old grandfather, down in Georgia, who was lynched a few years ago, by a white **mob** headed by a preacher. The grandfather shot a drunken white man who was forcing his way into the colored household, intent on raping two young granddaughters who had fled to the old man for protection. There was no talk of womanhood here. Instead, the grand old man was done to death **because he dared apply this same chivalry to his** women, and as I think of this, I sorrow greatly.

Baby Cut Out

Still sorrowing, I remember the colored mother-to-be, who was strung us by the heels, cut open, and her baby's head crushed by a white man's heel—because—her husband lynched—she threatened, in despair, **to name his lynchers.** Thinking of this, I sorrow, and wonder how long the word "chivalry" is to remain a sad and bitter jest for colored womanhood.

Colored women are bad? No. But there are bad colored women—many of them, even as there are bad white women—many of them. I am not a bad colored woman. I am just an American. My forebears were free colored people of property before Yorktown was fought. I take particular pains to attract no attention to myself by voice, gesture, or costume, anywhere in public. Yet, I have been insulted by white men, North and South, so often that I cease to feel anything beyond a dry contempt at their money-jingling insistence, and filthy comments. The idea of anyone being lynched for insulting me would probably move your most rabid lynch-advocate to laughter.

Jersey Girl

Not long ago, a young colored girl in Jersey, was horribly attacked by a white degenerate. Her family was **persecuted economically by the townspeople** because they insisted on prosecuting the criminal.

America is trying to do the impossible with the human mind. It is trying to blink at white crime and terrify black crime. It is trying to shout "Chivalry," about white women, with one side of its mouth, and smile wisely about black women wi other.

The America of slave days aged the promiscuity of blac and commercialized it. Deni in the face of abundant docu evidence is twice useless— cause the statement is so ea ed—again because denial on to further cloud an issue alr gravated by obscurity and denials.

Legislation

Neither morals nor morale can be legislated. We can no more legislate respect for white womanhood than we can legislate respect for black womanhood. The fact that the lynchers' rope and faggot has been turned **against the protection of black womanhood,** makes all protestations of American chivalry, the hollowest of hollow mockery.

Only education for **mutual respect,** will ever help either group to overcame this problem common to both.

Respect and Insult

You cannot teach the men of the black group to respect white women by insulting black women.

Instead of being taught to stand stolidly, with his head covered, in the presence of a black wife, or mother, or sister, American Chivalry will have to learn to treat all women alike. American Chivalry will have to learn how not to help a white woman from a high step, and leave a black woman to fall; how not to hold a door open for a white woman, and let it slam in the face of a black woman. I have learned to smile, when these things happen to me. Yet I know, as God knows, that there are those who do not smile, and that these manifestations of the scorn in which black women are held by white men, from petty disrespect, through insult and unredressed, or meagrely redressed rapine, have their full share on both sides of the race line, in lowering America's morale, and the morale of all localities under American influence.

Perpetrated by friends, black, white, brown or yellow, sex outrages, together with other crimes of violence, are the result of low morale.

Tradition

Can we **Americans** afford to deliberately perpetuate a tradition which directly contributes to a low morale—a hypocritical, shamming, insincere moral code—subversive of decency, among Americans white or Americans black?

Are Americans American enough to look the truth in the face and place the stamp of sincerity on their chivalry by their treatment, first of all, of their own American women of colored ancestry, right here at home, and finally by their treatment of native women in other countries?

I grieve with all decent people, over the crimes against white women, recorded during the past few weeks.

Is there anyone who will grieve with me over my ravished black sisters, whose ravishing causes less than a ripple in the day's news?

Black Police Would Prevent Lynchings and Protect Women.

To the Editor of the AFRO:

It seems that the majority of your readers can think of nothing but preachers and bishops to talk about.

That is all right at times, but when our own colored men [illegible] danger, of being lynched and some killed by the wayside for nothing at ll, by white people of high and low anding mostly ignorant whites, I sk you how long must we stand by nd se them kiled this way?

If the white officers of the law can't give us fair protection in our homes and travel, the least the states could dao is give us colored officers that will give us protection.

If a white officer or sheriff is afraid to protect his prisoners from mob violence, then give us one that ain't this goes for the jailer and hospital and court attendants too, to make it more plainer, give us policemen of our own race. They will protect us from lynchers.

JOHN TIDWELL.
Norfolk, Va.

"PROTECT ALL WOMEN," SAYS FORUM SPEAKER

Chicago Defender

2-6-32

"I believe in protecting white women, but I believe in protecting black women as well."

"Lynching is the deprivation of the rights of the weak by the strong."

"We have not only been lynched physically, but economically and socially as well."

The above statements featured the dynamic 12-minute speech of Rev. Harold M. Kingsley, pastor of the Congregational Church of the Good Shepherd, who, with five other nationally known speakers, appeared Sunday, Jan. 31, on a program, the object of which was a frank discussion of "Lynchings and How to Prevent Them."

Record Crowd Attends

Held at Greater Bethel church in the auditorium of Wendell Phillips high school and sponsored by the South Pkwy. Fellowship of Faiths, affiliated with the Seven Fellowships of Faiths, the program attracted an audience estimated at three thousand, which taxed the capacity of thechurch. Rev. A. Wayman Ward, pastor of Greater Bethel, officiated as chairman.

Each of the speakers was allowed 12 minutes. Bessie Marie Garrison, a graduate of Clark university, Atlanta, Ga., and well-known social worker, declared that the evils of lynching always react on the mob, and that the six New England states and New Jersey were the only states in America whose records as regards lynchings are clean.

Represents Catholicism

Aloys P. Hodapp, professor of sociology, Loyola university and former superintendent of public schools in Minesota, speaking for the Catholic faith, said there was no essential difference between the races and that if calm consideration and dispassionate reasoning could replace mob psychology the lynching evil would van-

A. He advocated self control by both races and stressed education as the necessary balance wheel to adjust racial differences.

David Malaiperuman, a native of Madras, India, appeared on the program as spokesman for the Indian hero, Gandhi. He drew a parallel between conditions affecting the Hindu and members of the Race in America, and believed that ultimately an enlightened public opinion will eliminate lynching and all forms of prejudice.

Mrs. Alvis Clamitz Shulman, a Jewess, the wife of Rabbi Shulman, and a graduate of Hebrew Union college, Cincinnati, gave an impressive talk, at the conclusion of which she was given a rising vote of thanks by the audience. She declared that evolution teaches that whites and blacks spring from common soil; that to abolish lynching we must arrive at the basis of prejudice and that the liberality of the present day church was a helpful influence.

Darrow Is Hopeful

Clarence Darrow, eminent criminologist and defender of the rights of man, declared that prejudice and human hatred are hard to overcome; that it is a long, tedious process, requiring infinite patience and care; that hatred and vengeance beget their conuterparts; that it is an excuse and sham to say that lynchings are perpetrated solely to protect white women, and that the most favorable indication of the future elimination of the practice lies in the attitude of tolerance and understanding already noticeable in the South. An association of southern white men and women has been formed, he said, the express purpose of which is to offset prejudice and promote a better understanding between the races.

C. F. Weller, executive secretary of the Chicago Fellowship of Faiths, explained the object of the organization. The Greater Bethel choir, under the leadership of F. D. Clark, presented a commendable musical program.

The White Woman and the Brown Man in Hawaii. L. F. Coles Tells of What He Saw There in 1916.

To the Editor of the AFRO:

George Schuyler wrote a chapter in a book known as "Behold! America" in which he stated that most of the trouble in the world today is due to the attitude assumed toward the weaker people and especially the colored people, by the so-called rich and powerful. That is to say, the poor white people and weak people of the world do only what they are forced to do because they receive encouragement from the Metropolitan Press which is owned by the mighty rich and because the colorphobist is in evidence everywhere.

What Mr. Schuyler said is attested by the way Admiral Pratt, (brother-in-law of Ruth Pratt, Congresswoman of the 17th district of New York, born in Massachusetts, and trained in military tactics,) and other persons who are up in the social and financial world, like Mrs. E. T. Stotesbury, who praised Lieut. Massie and Mrs. Fortescue and others who took part in the lynching of the man who is alleged to have assaulted Mrs. Massie. The assault has not been proved.

All colored [illegible]

States who have been trained porters and bell-hops in hotels, know just how white women call them—many times when they do not want anything, and how they are poorly clad and sometimes not clad at all, which puts the colored porters and bell-hops in an embarrassing position and if caught in that position they are lucky if they are not lynched because the white women always cry "assault," as did Mrs. Massie.

What likely happened is that Mrs Massie was out with the Hawaiian and when he did not do what she wanted, she got into an altercation with him and probably was caught by her husband, and of course she naturally said she had been assaulted by him, and to make matters worse, she said she had been assaulted by five Hawaiians and of course Kahahawai had to be lynched even though it was not proved that he was the ravisher of Mrs. Massie.

When I was in Honolulu in 1916 in May, just a month before I was discharged, I went into Honolulu and spent three weeks. I saw many things happen. White men who were high up in the naval ranks paid frequent visits to the Iwilei district where these men spent their pay with the brown women.

I saw many white women tourists and visitors playing in the sand with the brown boys on the various beaches, and especially on the beach at Waikiki.

The colored man should watch this condition in Hawaii with a great deal of interest because he will get some valuable information with reference to how the white man, and in fact, how the American people who are way up in society, stand on the question of lynching, and how domineering they are when it comes to dealing with people who are not their complexion.

If any colored man thinks that rich white people do not indorse lynching, from Hoover down, he must be an asinine fool. The senators who have been loudest in their denunciation of the so-called assault upon Mrs. Massie have all kept their mouths closed tighter than an Egyptian mummy when many thousands of colored women in the United States, and especially in the southern states, have been raped. They have never called for an investigation of the lynching of the four thousand or more colored in the last thirty-five years, despite the fact that many of them were lynched without being identified.

It has been proved that numbers were lynched who were not anywhere near where the so-called assault took place, but none of our presidents have said anything, not even the "big stick" president (Theodore Roosevelt) had the courage to denounce lynching or do anything about it.

L. F. COLES.

Philadelphia, Pa.

THE AFRO REPLIES TO EX-SENATOR BRUCE

Afro-American

When the Federal Council of Churches made public last week portions of the report of the investigation by Professor Broadus Mitchell of Johns Hopkins, of the Salisbury lynching, one of the first to defend the Lynching Shore of Maryland and the lynchers themselves was ex-U.S. Senator William Cabell Bruce, of Baltimore.

The ex-Senator's defense is indirect and persuasive, oratorical rather than logical, and more typical of the Ku Klux spellbinder than the statesman.

He is surprised that Dr. Mitchell called the Eastern Shore lynchers "mentally and spiritually backward." These people, says Mr. Bruce, are of "unmixed English descent." They are "our flesh and blood." In other words, we are all the sons of white women—we white folks must stick together.

This is the usual superiority propaganda of the K.K.K. where colored people, Jews, and foreigners are concerned.

The ex-Senator's second main defense of lynchers is subtile. First, he condemns lynching and urges punishment of lynchers. Then he paints a picture in which he terms a mentally defective colored man a "criminal," a "wild beast" and a "brute."

At most, this ignorant, underprivileged man was only one murderer. But the so-called superior white folks, "those of unmixed English descent," who hanged him, burned his body and danced like sex-mad ghouls—these 200 murderers—Mr. Bruce pictures as nice people with comfortable hotels, tilled fields and busy cities.

Too bad the ex-Senator scatters his descriptive adjectives without realizing that the Eastern Shore lynched a man hitherto peaceful, of good reputation, a steady worker and a thrifty citizen.

It didn't occur to him that under our system of justice, a man is innocent until proved guilty through fair and impartial legal procedure, and that in the light of more recent investigation, it is just possible the Eastern Shore whites have lynched the wrong man.

Our theory is that the murderer of the white Salisbury lumber man is another white man, and that he walks the streets today because he was able to shift the crime to the shoulders of one whose descent didn't happen to be "English."

Lynching Upheld by Ex-Governor, Judges

Negro World

HOUSTON, Texas.—According to a statement made in federal court here this week by former Governor Dan Moody, a jailer with a prisoner in his custody should surrender that prisoner to such a mob as might demand him and the jailer ought to be shot if, instead of giving up his prisoner, he decides to use gun powder on the mobbists. 2-27-32

Statements in support of these views came from the former governor during the hearing before Circuit Judge J. C. Hutcheson and District Judges Randolph Bryant and W. I. Grubb, concerning that legality and the propriety of Governor Sterling invoking martial law in the east Texas oil fields.

The court was discussing the use of discretion by the governor in the exercise of the power to proclaim martial law when the following colloquy occurred between Judge Hutcheson and Moody:

"Now suppose that a mob was surrounding a jail demanding that a prisoner be given up," Judge Hutcheson said. "Suppose that, to keep the peace, the jailer gave the prisoner up. Would the courts have the right to pass on the question of whether the jailer used his discretion?"

"I think the jailer would be right," Moody said.

"Would an officer have the right to fire into a mob like that?" asked Judge Bryant.

"I think an officer who would do that ought to be shot himself," Dan Moody said.

"We agree on that," Judge Bryant said.

"I think you've taken a straight and manly stand," Judge Hutcheson told Moody.

Judge Bryant is from Sherman, Texas.

Prof. Broadus Mitchell

Afro-American 2-27-32

In condemning ex-Senator Bruce's subtle and vicious defence of the Salisbury lynchers we cannot afford to overlook the constructive work done by Professor Broadus Mitchell of the Department of Political Economy of Johns Hopkins University, who made an investigation of the lynching for the Federal Council of Churches.

There is little at anti-Negro Johns Hopkins for which colored people can thank God. The money left by the founder for a colored orphanage has found its way into other channels. Colored people are barred as students, doctors, nurses and private patients. The administration at Hopkins hates colored folk so much that the presence of a liberal like Professor Mitchell upon the faculty is an anachronism.

His simple, frank report on Maryland's lynchtown declared the white people there to be ignorant, prejudiced, frightened, sullen, boastful. Cultured people, he explained, do not burn human beings in a public square and cut off fingers and toes for souvenirs.

Professor Mitchell blamed Salisbury's police for the lynching, the plans for which were known an hour beforehand. His own child of two, the Professor said, would have been as much protection to the man about to be lynched, as a Salisbury policeman.

Professor Mitchell is a member of the board of the Urban League. His interest in interracial matters is no accident. He inherits it from his father, long a liberal member of the faculty of the University of Richmond, Virginia. From him came the ability to look a situation in the face and courageously state the facts.

Salisbury and ex-Senator Bruce may wriggle under Professor Mitchell's scientific magnifying glass, but in the final analysis the experience, however painful, should do them both good.

The Lynching Shore

Afro-American 2/27/32

The recent lynching on the Eastern (Lynching) Shore of Maryland was no flash in the pan. It has always been "funny that way."

Take for example one of its most distinguished white Republican citizens in public life, Mr. W. P. Jackson, until recently national committeeman for Maryland. "W. P." who always had his hand out for plums for whites only was as much of a lily white as Bascom Slemp in Virginia or Necktieless Joe Talbott in South Carolina.

Then there is U.S. Senator Phillips Lee Goldsborough who when governor of Maryland declined to appoint notary publics. A lily-white and Hoover "yes man" he voted for Judge Parker for the U.S. Supreme Bench.

Isolated by the Chesapeake Bay, the Shore has long been deserted by its most progressive element and those who remain, accustomed to taking orders, find themselves in the strange position of leadership.

Another index of Lynching Shore civilization is the average salaries paid school teachers in the county public schools.

These are the figures:

	White Teachers	Colored Teachers
Cecil County	$1,102	$712
Kent County	1,042	569
Queen Anne County	1,118	513
Talbot County	1,100	489
Caroline County	1,027	490
Dorchester County	989	451
Somerset County	980	427
Worcester County	1,016	482
Wicomico County	1,090	528

A lynching area can be depended upon not only to murder colored people but to rob them of school funds.

The last day of the session of the Maryland legislature, it appeared certain that a majority of the state senators had decided to repeal the jim crow car law.

When the time came for the vote, it was discovered that the bill had been stolen. Mr. Manny Altfeld, state senator (Democrat), Fourth Baltimore district, alleged that the thief was an Eastern Shore senator.

Since the mob outburst early in December recurring attacks upon individuals have been reported.

In fact the discovery of a dead body near the railroad in Salisbury the day after the mob burnt a human being leads to the theory that there was a double instead of a single lynching.

Calvin Coolidge's courageous handling of the Boston police strike helped the then governor of Massachusetts into the vice-presidential chair.

An unpunished outbreak of Eastern Shore savages not only embarrasses Governor Ritchie's campaign for the presidential nomination, but shames every citizen who claims Maryland as his home.

Lynchings-1932

3628

Negro Press, (Northern.)

Discussions.

From Lynching to Kidnaping

Amsterdam News

3-9-32

BEGINNING with the ratification of the National Prohibition Amendment in July, 1919, which, with the Volstead Act, went into effect in January, 1920, the twelve succeeding years have been the most lawless in the history of the United States; and without ascribing this lawlessness definitely to prohibition, the fact still remains that it began soon after that amendment and its enforcement act became law.

BEFORE PROHIBITION, except for the crime of lynching in the South, constituted authority seemed able to cope with crime in all of its manifestations counterfeiting was conquered, train robberies became less frequent and murderers were captured and punished. Since prohibition, which has thus far failed to prohibit, there has been a general let-down in all law enforcement. Lynching, which is the public execution of an accused person without trial, is no longer America's sole unsolved crime. To it has now been added the gang murder, which is the private execution of a person for some private offense against gang law. In neither lynching nor gang murders have the authorities made serious attempts to bring their perpetrators to book. Grand juries rarely indict lynchers and, in the case of gang killings, the police have almost looked upon them as a blessing, so long as the victim himself was a gangster. It never seemingly occurred to them that lawlessness in any form begets lawlessness and that the victim need not always be a Negro or a gangster.

HAVING GROWN WEALTHY selling liquor, the gangster extended his racketeering activity to legitimate business and his next move was to corrupt a sufficient number of elected and appointed officials to make his immunity from prosecution and punishment more or less permanent. One has only to look at Chicago, which at last is trying to oust her corrupt officials, and the revelations of Judge Seabury here, to see how well public officials have been corrupted and to what extent our government is saturated with graft. Prohibition and other forms of racketeering have been hit recently by the depression, and the gangster and racketeer have had to seek out new worlds to conquer.

THE LINDBERGH KIDNAPING may be gangland's signal that another milestone has been passed and that it is ready to do battle with society in general. The lynching mob never had any fear of the law. Were not those who were supposed to see that the law is enforced often among its leaders? The prohibition violator once feared the law, but that was years ago before he organized himself into a big business and amassed enough money to buy his way out of jail. The gangster is admittedly a law unto himself, and the professional criminal and kidnaper evade it with ease. Thus, it is not such a far cry from the failure of the government to give the Negro in the South security in his life and liberty and the kidnaping from his own crib of the most popular baby in America.

White Dixie Editor Scores Lynch Law

Courier 3-12-32

Pittsburgh Pa.

ATHENS, Ga., Mar. 10—Reorganization of the South's social viewpoint so "justice rather than hysteria, hate, and fear will control the adjudication of responsibility for crime" was recommended as a partial solution to the lynching problem today by a Southern newspaper editor.

The editor, George Fort Milton, of the Chattanooga (Tenn.) News, an outstanding Southern writer and chairman of the Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching, spoke here before the Georgia Press Institute and said the commission's investigators had found "evidence of a rather extraordinary type to indicate the greater likelihood of lynchings in communities living upon the fringe of hunger and of heartbreak."

"People spiritually as well as economically underprivileged," he added, "seemed quite ready to illuminate their drab, narrow, fruitless lives by the excitements and emotional releases of burning torch and shrieking victim."

He used a series of Georgia lynchings to demonstrate his point. One Negro, he said was shot to death in a cell in the County Jail at Darien where "for a long series of years . . . the county's economic structure had been progressively breaking down."

Another mob victim died at Ocilla in Irwin County. The average per capita production of that county, Milton said, is only 45 per cent of that of Georgia as a whole and bank deposits in 1929 were but $33.45 per capita compared with $155.89 for Georgia as a whole He also told of agricultural backwardness at Thomasville where there was a lynching.

A Negro politician of some standing, S. S. Mincey, Milton said, was killed near Ailey in Montgomery County, Ga., in July, 1930. He cited this picture of the region by the commission he heads:

"The poor whites of Montgomery and surrounding counties are poor indeed. The klan, which they accepted as a way out has failed them; cotton is cheap; there is no prosperous city to run off to at will. They are emaciated looking and they with their wives and children grow old while young. Mothers with sunken chases and practically no teeth, little babies in arms with scabs on their heads and running sores about their ears, boys chewing tobacco before they are half grown and girls staring and popping their gum, and men women and children with dirty clothes and unkempt persons seething fatalism and pessimism are to be seen on every hand . . . There is much of frontier in this part of Georgia with the virility of the frontier lacking."

The solution of the lynching problem, Milton went on, lies in two types of action. One, he said, is the quickening of the machinery of law to prevent threatened lynchings and punish those who perpetrate them, and the other is recommended reorganization of the South's social viewpoint.

FEAR BASIS OF OFAY LYNCHING MANIA—ODUM

Afro-American

Whites Uneasy Lest Colored People May Not "Stay in their Place."

1/2/32

PREACHERS AND TEACHERS AFRAID

Emotions Overcome Reason; Terror Results.

NEW YORK.—Fear on the part of whites of colored domination is the basis for lynching, Dr. Howard W. Odum, prominent sociologist at the University of North Carolina, believes.

This fear, according to Dr. Odum, is not confined solely to the South where a predominance of colored persons exists. Writing in the Nation, he says:

"It seems apparent that the general fear which lies at the basis of the lynching phenomenon involves many other features. The colored man is troublesome to our peace of mind, though we do not quite know how or why. He is making a great deal of progress in different ways.

Afraid of Equality

"He may become a different sort of person from what we now think he ought to be. He may become an intimate part of our civilization and culture. He may really be our equal. We may really be wrong in our estimates of him. We fear what will happen in the future. He has to be kept in his place. We are not really afraid of the colored man himself. We are afraid of the prospect. Our thought o it is beyond the control of anything except our emotional conditioning. What are we going to do abut it? We are uneasy. But we let things drift along, and when something happens, the easiest way is the way of violence and emotional debauch. And we struggle with fear and misgivings and rage that we should get into such a fix. And the colored man must pay.

Whites "Sacred"

"And then we are afraid of what we have done. Our conscience is the conscience of a religious people. It is written that we must protect our women and our race. It is written that the colored man is a hewer of wood and a drawer of water. Written or not written, we have done right and will stand by it and see that the sacred whiteness of our race shall not be violated. We are dangerous to those who oppose us. We are hostile to those who reason We are afraid and it makes us mad.

"Of this fear the great body of people who are horrified at lynching are afraid. In our turn, we are afraid to protest. We are afraid to legislate. We are afraid to enforce law and liberty. We are afraid to teach. We are afraid to preach. Afraid of the public, afraid of the demagogue, and, deep down, rationalizing amid the fear of fears, we are afraid to do anything. There are practically no exceptions. Teacher, preacher, doctor, lawyer, business man, farmer, laborer, artist and craftsman, writer of poems, dreamer of dreams—we are all afraid. Among the Negroes fear, a normal conditioning factor of life, becomes stark terror. The colored people are afraid to do anything. Why shouldn't they be afraid?

What Can Be Done?

"What is being done about it? Why can't more be done about it? The fear which militates against vigorous protest and action is of course a product of the folkways. Every time, the folkways will defeat the stateways if they are against the stateways. The special report on lynchings says: 'The lynching method is a recognized custom in many communities. Hence, church members and civic leaders, instead of taking a determined stand against mob violence, often yield to it either by silence or by apology.' What the outside observer does not see is that the folkways are so strong that the enforcement of law by local or State forces would mean literally civil war in the community.

"The folkways have ruled continuously since the days of reconstruction. Progress is being made but it is in proportion as the folkways are being changed by education, publicity, civic appeal, and courageous leadership. One-half of the colored persons who have been lynched never got to the law; one-fourth never got as far as the jail; and one-fourth were taken from custody of the jail. Many lynchings have been prevented by officials and citizens and these are evidence of changing folkways and the diminution of fear."

LYNCHING LEAGUE HAS WHITE VICTIM

Afro-American

CHICAGO.—(ANP)—In 1931, the second victim of a lynching party was a white man.

The record for 1931 was duplicated for 1932 Sunday when a mob seized Richard Read, 53-year-old white farmer, from the Cheyenne county jail in Kansas and hanged him to a tree about four miles from Atwood.

Read was reported to have confessed that he abducted, criminally attacked and killed Dorothy Hunt, eight-year-old white girl of Selden, Kansas.

Daily papers' first accounts declared Read colored. He is an ofay.

STANDING IN THE LYNCHING LEAGUE (1932)

Texas
Kansas
Virginia
North Carolina
South Carolina
Georgia
Florida
Alabama
Kentucky
Tennessee
Mississippi
Arkansas
Louisiana
Oklahoma
Missouri
Indiana
Maryland
West Virginia

Total

3628

TELL IT ALL.

Two Associated Press dispatches appearing in the daily press afford an interesting study of one phase of race relations in the South. Under the date line of Crockett, Tex., April 2, we are informed that:

Age 4-9-32

"Dave Tillis, a Negro tenant farmer, was lynched today because, it is alleged, he entered a white woman's bedroom last night. Arch Maples, the Negro's landlord, reported that he was on his way here to turn Tillis over to the officers when four men took the Negro from him and hanged him to a black jack tree. The last previous lynching in Texas was on June 17, 1930."

TThe other news item was from Palm Beach, Fla., as follows:

New York, N.Y.

"A Negro butler at the Palm Beach winter home of A. T. Hardy of New York, ran amuck with a knife and a broken milk bottle today and seriously stabbed Capt. George Sheaf, master of the Hardy yacht, and a Negro maid. A policeman finally shot and wounded the butler, whose name was given as Chester Starks. Starks ran off after the attack but was found by Policeman J. C. Ecklund in a clump of bushes at the rear of the house."

Stories typical of the foregoing coming out of the South usually are lacking i detail and defiiniteness. Tillis was pu to death for entering a white woman' room, but his side of the case was not made public. And why did Chester Starks run amuck and cut up Capt. Sheaf and the Negro maid? The Palm Beach affair, for some reason, has been hushed up.

LYNCHING MOBS REPUDIATED BY WOMEN OF MISS

Tribune

Hundreds Pledge Efforts t End Mob Violence; Thousands Enrolled

Washington D.C.

JACKSON, Miss.—More than a thousand Mississippi women in 464 different towns and cities have gone on record in a united protest against lynching and have signed a pledge to do everything possible to end mob violence, through the press, the pulpit, the schools, and the influence of the home.

Additional signers are being enrolled constantly through the efforts of the Association of Southern Woman for the Prevention of Lynching. The Mississippi branch of the Association is headed by Mrs. L. W. Alford, of McComb, who is giving much time to the promotion of the movement throughout the state, visiting all the important meetings of women and laying before them the program of the Association.

The Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching was organized in October, 1930, at a meeting of Southern women called by the Commission on Interracial Cooperation through Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames, the director of the Commission's department of woman's work. It now has strong branches in all the Southern states and has enrolled several thousands women. These women not only carry on an educational campaign against lynching, but individually and collectively watch for dangerous situations, seek to avert threatened trouble, commend and support officers who resist mobs, and demand vigorous court action in cases of mob violence. Following is the statement of conviction and purpose which these thousands of women in Mississippi and the other states have personally signed:

"We, the undersigned, believe that the crime of lynching undermines all ideals of government and religion which we hold sacred and which we try by our lives and our conduct to implant into the minds of our youth. We recognize that all lynching will be defended so long as the public generally accepts the assumption that it is for the protection of white women. We hold that we owe it not only to our own times, but to posterity, to repudiate the acts of mobs and lynchers and to declare that if the Constitution, our laws, our courts cannot protect women, then our civilization is a travesty and our religion is a mockery.

"We pledge ourselves to arouse public opinion to the menace of the crime of lynching by educating the youth of our own communities to an understanding of the consequences of such lawless acts, and by calling upon press, pulpit, schools, and every patriotic citizen to join us in a campaign against such violations of law and civilization and the teachings of religion."

CONDEMN LYNCHING

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

SPARTANBURG, S. C., May 5—(ANP)—Lynching and mob action were censured Thursday in a resolution passed at the closing session of the Upper South Carolina Methodist Conference of the Woman's Missionary Society.

"If the constitution, our law and our courts cannot protect women," the resolution read, "then our civilization is a travesty and our religion is a mockery."

"U. S. Government Sanctions Lynch Law," Y. M. C. A. Official Charges In Sermon at Lincoln University

Age 5-14-32

New York, N.Y.

Noted Men Speak at Alpha Phi Alpha Meeting--Glee Club Gives Creditable Concert—Seniors and Juniors Give "Prom"

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY, Pa.—Pressure brought to bear by U. S. Government officials to secure commutation of the sentences of Lieut. Thomas H. Massie; his mother-in-law, Mrs. Grace Hubbard Fortescue, and two enlisted naval men, convicted of murdering Joseph Kahahawai by a Honolulu jury, was caustically commented upon by Dr. Channing H. Tobias, senior secretary, colored work department, National Council of the Y. M. C. A., and Eugene Kinckle Jones, secretary of the National Urban League, who addressed the students, members of the faculty and visitors at Lincoln University Sunday.

Dr. Tobias was guest speaker Sunday morning at the regular services held in the Chapel. In making incidental reference to the Massie case, he charged that the government had officially sanctioned lynch law. At the annual go to high school-go to college meeting held in the afternoon under the auspices of Alpha Phi Alpha, Mr. Jones deplored the activities of Senators at Washington who advocate "removing the stigma" from a self confessed murderer.

Bank President Speaks

Charles C. Huitt, president of the Dunbar National Bank, New York, was one of the principal speakers at the big fraternity gathering. He warned against sounding a pessimistic note in race relations, stating that conditions were steadily improving, spoke in high praise of Lincoln's many years of service as an institution of higher education for the Negro, and complimented Dr. Wiliam Hallock Johnson on his successful administration as president.

Mr. Huitt was introduced by Dr. E. P. Roberts, a member of the board of trustees. C. E. Shelton presided, and musical selections were rendered by C. R. Andrews and the Alpha Quartet.

Saturday, May 9, was a busy day at Lincoln University. In the afternoon a lawn fete was given by the musical club, which was attended by three hundred. Members of the gentler sex from New York, Jersey City, Philadelphia, Wilmington, Baltimore, Washington and other points were present. A collation was served on the campus.

Saturday evening the Lincoln University Musical Club, James E. Dorsey, director, artistically rendered a program of classical and folk numbers before an appreciative audience at Mary Dodd Memorial Chapel. The fine work of the organization stamps it as one of the best college glee clubs in the country. The guest soloist was Josephine Webster-Cooper of Philadelphia, a young soprano of much promise.

Following the concert, the seniors and juniors gave a "prom" in honor of friends and advisors.

The ladies of the faculty entertained the guests at a buffet breakfast Sunday morning.

Lynchings-1932
& Discussions.

Negro Press, (Northern.)

3629

Louisiana Makes '32 Lynch Toll 11

Louisiana 12-3-32

Pittsburgh, Pa.

CHICAGO, Dec. 1. — (ANP)— Louisiana got her name on the dishonored roll of lynching states last Sunday when a mob of fifteen men took William House from a marshal, shot him twice and hanged him to a tree. His body was found Monday.

House was accused of "talking [illegible]ck" to two white women.

This marked the eleventh lynching for this year.

Just one day prior to the murder of House, the Association of Southern (White) Women for the Prevention of Lynching had set a goal of a lynchless south for 1933

Stop-Lynching League in Court Over Finances

Age

12-10-32

New York

By EBENEZER RAY

On Thursday, December 1, Mrs. Elnora Johnson, 311 West 139th street, president of the Stop Lynching League, represented by Atty. Henri W. Shields, 208 West 141st street, haled Mrs. Ellen Thomas Young, 255 West 144th street, wife of the proprietor of Young's Book Concern, before Magistrate Ford in Heights Court, in an effort to obtain $39, funds held by Mrs. Young in her capacity as treasurer of the Stop Lynching League.

After hearing Mrs. Mary D. James, newly elected recording secretary of the organization, read the minutes of a meeting which was held at the 137th street Y. W. C. A. in which a new treasurer had been elected, His Honor decided that the funds should be turned over to the new treasurer. Atty. Cunningham, 45 Broadway represented Mrs. Young.

In an interview with Mrs. Young and Mrs. Blanche Rhone this writer was informed that the Stop Lynching League is about six years old and is said to be chartered under the laws of Delaware although no one in New York has seen such charter. The League has had its ups and downs—and plenty of downs, also its fruitless and untimely treks to Washington to confer with the Vice-President.

Although such a tiny sum was hardly worth a big legal battle Mrs. Young declares that the defense for the case was misconstrued. She claims that the sum of money represented part of funds collected from donors for the purpose, when possible, to send delegates to Washington in the furtherance of the organization's purpose. And until such purposes were maintained the money was the property of those who sought to obtain it.

The original workers, headed by Mrs. Johnson, were Mesdames M. B. Houston, Alice Lofton, Anna Branion, Mary Leigh, Ellen Young Sylvia Smith, Mary Joell, Blanche Rhone, Willie Belle Hunter and Angie Blocker.

It is said that many organizations have helped the League to obtain small sums of money at times, but reports of failures to obtain assistance have been equally frequent. It has been reported quite often after organizations, fraternal and religious, have obtained collections for the League, that some hitch prevented the turnover of the funds. One of these organizations purporting to have issued such a statement is Abyssinian Baptist Church.

The amount claimed in court was $39, but Mrs. Young said she only held $30.65. $5 had been taken by the past recording secretary for stationery which has not been received and $2.75 were paid to a printer for letters after Mrs. Johnson had received a like sum to pay the same bill.

The two women who signed the receipt for the $30.65 were Lessie L. Kemp for Ella Moore, treasurer, and Emma Dabney.

With the newly elected officers Mrs. Johnson intends to carry on.

Mid-West Woman Learns Lynchings are Manufactured

White Matron Horror Stricken as Southern Boy Tells How Dixie White Society Gets Rid of Colored People They Dislike.

By WILLIAM PICKENS
(For ANP)

Afro-American 11-12-32

Baltimore

In a Mid-Western city a white woman, who is a leader in her community, came to see me with [illegible] in her [illegible] excitement in her voice. She had heard something and she wanted to ask whether such a thing could be true. How I wished that I could have told her that it was not only [illegible]e, but even [illegible]. B[illegible] alas! I could not comfort her. [illegible] had to admit that it was not only true, but that it has happened many times, does happen, and will happen.

"—And this is what the good woman had learned: A Southern white youth has come to her town to go to school and has become very chummy with a local youth whom she knows well. The Northern youth, somewhat shocked himself, reported to her that one day his conversation with the Southern white turned on the question of some resentment or quarrel with a Negro youth, also a student.

And the Southern youth coldly confieded to his Northern white pal: 'In the South where I live if a nigger boy offended me or made me angry like that, I'd just get a girl friend and we'd watch until he came along by himself; then she'd go on by herself and overtake him or meet him. When he was close to her, she'd scream. Then I'd be even with that nigger: if the officers arrested him before we could lynch him, he'd get the electric chair or life imprisonment at least."

"But, said the Northern youth, 'wouldn't he be asked to tell his side of it?"

"His side!" replied the coldly honest Southerner, 'Why, the more the nigger talked and said he didn't do it, the madder they'd all get at him!'

"Can it be as horrible as that?' asked the white woman in the Mid-West.

"Well, just a little more horrible than that," I had to admit; for I have known them to insist upon putting the Negro to death even after the woman got ashamed and changed her testimony and confessed the frame-up.

So it is, and so it must be, in any society founded on the absurdity of race superiority and race inferiority. Only the inherent decency of human nature, especially of the female portion of it, prevents the enactment of more such horrors. If any white female moron in Georgia or Mississippi takes it into her head that she wants to have a fuss made over her and get her "name in the papers," she will do this thing, as it has often been done.

Meanwhile, maybe something will happen from time to time to drive home to the minds of reasonable people the actual menace and the bestial reality of this social monstrosity.

ALL LYNCHINGS NOT REPORTED, LEAGUE ASSERTS

Afro-American

Committee Cites Attempts to Cover up Crimes.

Baltimore Md

12-24-32

SAY CORONERS' JURIES AIDED

Militancy of Workers Increased in 1932.

NEW YORK.—While there were 37 instances reported of lynchings in 1932, research authorities of the League of Struggle for Negro Rights, declare that a large number of police murders and of unreported lynchings, make the total far too low.

The report in part, says:

"There was a definite attempt to cover up many of the lynchings. In many cases the lynchers did their work quietly and discovery was made only much later. Instances are: the finding of the bodies of Cap Johnson in Florida, and of three other Negroes near the same scene; the finding of the body of Dave Tullis in Texas, and of the body of Shadrack Thompson in Virginia; the discovery, after a period of time, of the fact of the lynching of Luke Murray in Ohio. From these instances, two important conclusions must be drawn:

"1. That, without question, an enormous number of lynchings have occurred which have not come to light, but knowledge of which has been carefully suppressed. This is probably more true of 1932 than of previous years and is due to the fear of the lynchers in the face of the increased militancy of Negro and white.

"2. That the lynchers felt that they did not have the support of the mass of whites in the community to the same extent as previously, and therefore had need of hiding their actions. The entrance of masses of white workers into the anti-lynching struggle this year, under the leadership of such organizations as the International Labor Defense; the growing unity of Negro and white workers in many struggles, gave the lynchers good reason for their fear.

Whitewash Lynchings

"Official bodies, from coroners juries to the national government, have carefully whitewashed lynchings that could not be altogether kept from the world. Very few arrests were made. With the exception of a light sentence in one case in the Ironton lynching, and extremely light sentences in the cases of murder of Negro railwaymen, no convictions were obtained."

The list of 37 lynchings as reported in the press follows:

No.	Name	Place	How Killed	Month
1.	Joseph Kahahawai	Honolulu	shot	January
2.	Ed. Cole*	Water Valley, Miss.	shot	February
3.	Cap Johnson	Brooksville, Fla.	shot-drowned	February
4.	Unknown	Brooksville, Fla.	found in grave near pond	February
5.	Unknown	Brooksville, Fla.	hanged	February
6.	Unknown	Brooksville, Fla.	hanged	February
7.	Aaron Williams*	Vicksburg, Miss.	shot	March
8.	Wilbur Anderson*	near Vicksburg, Miss.	shot	March
9.	Dave Tillis	Crockett, Texas	hanged	April
10.	R. Read (white)	St. Francis, Ky.	hanged	April
11.	Percy Berry	New Bern, S.C.	beaten and drowned	April
12.	Will Harvey*	Natches, Miss.	shot	May
13.	W. Merrick (white)	Princeton, Ky.	hanged	May
14.	Willie Burns	Lucerne, Ark.	shot	May
15.	Unknown	Forest City, Ark.	shot	May
16.	Clarence Brooker*	Grand Junction, Tenn.	shot	June
17.	Luke Murray	South Point, Ohio	shot and drowned	June
18.	Charles Miller	Opelika, Ala.	shot	June
19.	Henry Woods	Jasper, Fla.	shot	June
20.	Richard Baker	Gaffney, S.C.	beaten to death	June
21.	Edgar Scott*	Macon, Ga.	beaten to death	July
22.	Henry Russell	Newton, Ga.	shot	August
23.	Ralph Horton	Boone, N.C.	shot	September
24.	Shadr'k Thompson	Warrenton, Va.	hanged	September
25.	Frank Tucker	Crossett, Ark.	hanged	September
26.	Judge Crawford	Senatobia, Miss.	shot	September
27-32	With him were shot down his wife, three sons, a daughter, and son-in-law			
33.	Frank Kincaid*	Canton, Miss.	shot	November
34.	Henry Campbell	Mullins, S.C.	shot	November
35.	Ed Dunlap	Greenville, Miss	shot.	November
36.	William House	Wisner, La.	hanged	November
37.	George Green	Gretnaville, Miss	shot	November

*Railway workers killed by an organized murder ring.

All these cases reported in the press, in which persons were lynched by shooting, hanging, burning or drowning at the hands of organized groups.

Lynchings-1932
Discussions.

Negro Press, Northern.

3630

1000 Southern White Women Are Opposed to Lynching

Guide 5-14-32
Cleveland, Ohio.

JACKSONVILLE, Miss., May 12.—More than a thousand Mississippi women in 464 different towns and citie have gone on record in a united protest against lynchng and have signed a pledge to do everything possible to end mob violence, through the press, the pulpit, the schools, and the influence of the home.

Additional signers are being enrolled constantly thru the efforts of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching. The Mississippi branch of the Association is headed by Mrs. L. W. Alford of McComb who is giving much time to the promotion of the movement thruout the state, visiting all the important meetings of women and laying before them the program of the Association.

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THE MASSIE CASE

Pittsburgh Courier
5/7/32

NOW we have it. It required a trial of the Massie case in far away Honolulu to bring to the surface in these United States the absolute truth of the real attitude of our white friends on the question of mob law. If the Massie case never serves any other purpose under the sun, it has served successfully to bring to the surface the deep-seated conviction that the white people in this country actually believe in and wholeheartedly sanction mob law. It goes without saying that we are doomed as a nation.

What is the Massie case? The facts are too common to be repeated. But briefly, the facts are these: An American husband with his wife attended a cabaret in Hawaii. About midnight she walks out of the cabaret and leaves her husband with other guests. She goes out into the street alone, unattended, and her husband says he did not know where she was going. When the husband finds the wife again she reports that she has been attacked by men of foreign blood. Included among them was a Hawaiian.

All of the men named by Mrs. Massie as her assailants were tried in Hawaii. The jury disagreed and the men were released on bail awaiting a second trial.

Rather than await a second trial, some Americans, under false pretense, kidnaped one of the Hawaiians named as an assailant of Mrs. Massie and they lynched him. This is long after the assault had been committed. Under the law, no one has been convicted or established as the true assailant of Mrs. Massie.

The trial was referred to as the "Honor Trial" and the defense concocted in our American newspapers was the unwritten law, or, in other words, murder was committed in defense of a woman's honor.

No man holds the honor of a woman any higher than we do. Our mother was a woman.

But whose honor was assailed in this case? It was not Mrs. Fortescue. It was not Mr. Massie. It was not the two naval officers, if the reports are correct. Before we could call this an honor trial, and before the defense could allege that murder was committed in defense of Mrs. Massie's honor, Mrs. Massie should have been the person to commit the murder. If Mrs. Massie had shot down the Hawaiian who assaulted her, then we can see some merit to the so-called "Honor" defense and "Honor" murder. But Mrs. Massie did not lynch the Hawaiian. He was lynched by her mother, her husband and two naval enlisted men, none of whom had been assaulted.

If her husband or her mother, or a next friend, can commit murder in defense of the honor of another, then the participants in murder could as easily be a mob of friends as well as two, three or four friends. The principle is absolutely the same. The Hawaiian was lynched, not by people whom he had assaulted, but by people whose honor was never at stake.

And our American newspapers—how they tried the case in their columns.

The jury, composed of six Americans and six members of other nationalities ,was held up to public ridicule. Our public press referred to the six foreigners as "half-castes," "half-breeds," "Orientals" and whatnot.

But the verdict brought in was one of guilt, voted for by the six Americans on that jury. And the only person on the jury who wanted to acquit the whole four was a Hawaiian, one of the "half-castes," one of the "half-breeds" referred to in our American press. It appears from reports that the six Americans on the jury voted for conviction. They had to vote for a conviction before the verdict could be reached.

And the howl of "injustice" went up. What was the injustice? We note from quoted remarks by Senators in outstanding newspapers that the verdict was a great injustice. We note that the hue and cry is now raised that the four Americans were not tried by their peers. Who are our peers in criminal court? Go to the law for the answer. Every defendant who walks into a criminal court and submits himself to a trial by a jury accepts the personnel of the panel as his peers. Some of that panel may be ministers, some may be lawyers, some may be hod-carriers, some may be maids, porters, and even bootblacks, but under our

are all the peers of the defendant the moment he
to a trial by a jury.

Why, then, the hue and cry that the defendants were not tried by their peers? Why, then, the exclamation of injustice, simply because the jury who heard the facts convicted the defendants? Why the assault upon the judge and the grand jury because four people were indicted for lynching a human being? The answer is plain. THIS COUNTRY BELIEVES IN MOB LAW. This country subscribes to lynching, and that is why no law has found its way to the pages of our statute books making lynching a Federal offense. Our public press discloses not only dissatisfaction with the verdict, but a bitterness toward the orderly and constituted legal processes by which men and women are to be tried for crime. The Massie case has evoked comment from men in high places whose deep-seated sympathy with mob law and lynching burst forth in passionate comment, calculated to destroy the law of our land.

The defense concocted by Mr. Darrow was no defense. It was no defense in law, nor was it any defense in fact. Massie admitted that he used the revolver to wring from the slain Hawaiian a confession. Suppose the Hawaiian had not confessed. How do we know he did confess, except what Massie said. And Massie also said he was insane at the time of the shooting. If he were insane, how shall we believe that the Hawaiian confessed. A crazy man cannot be relied upon, and an admittedly crazy man is an incompetent witness.

Let there be no mistake about the Massie case. The jury said Mr. Darrow with his much-touted forensic ability made absolutely no impression, and under the law the jury is the sole judge of the facts. This country believes in mob law. It sympathizes with lynching. It condones the action of mobs who take the law into their own hands. Further denial is absolutely unnecessary. We have it from senators, from leading editorials, from statesmen, from laymen in these United States.

The Massie trial has established beyond question that the deep-seated conviction in the minds of the white people of this country favors lynching and mob violence.

If we want to take over the Hawaiian Islands and make every square foot of them a fort, let us do it like courageous men and women; but the Massie trial should not be used as an excuse or pretext to make a fort of the Hawaiian Islands.

Lynchings-1932
Discussions

Negro Press, Northern.

McKinney Asks "The Why" Of Senate Interest In Massie Case

Courier 5-14-32 Pittsburgh, Pa.

Disposal Of Hawaii's Famous 'Honor Murder' Is Travesty On Justice

(Editor's Note—Because of the power and force of this article, we have taken the liberty of using it on this page instead of under Mr. McKinney's weekly column, "Views and Reviews.")

By ERNEST RICE McKINNEY

After commuting the sentences of the so-called honor slayers in the Massie affair, Governor Judd remarked that he hoped that his action would end the case. If the governor were either inetlligent or courageous, he would know that his act would serve only as a starter for something that white Americans will find it very difficult to shake off. It will be almost impossible for them to shake off the indictment that they are liars when they say that they believe in law and order, or in orderly court procedure, or in the power of "our institutions" to hedge citizens about with safety and security, or in plain everyday civic decency and righteousness.

This case, and the wild and savage antics of some of our leading citizens, will be remembered for a long time. I do not refer to the ravings of the gentlemen from the South. Considering the past record of this section of barbaric America, I feel that the conduct of these gentlemen was unusually restrained. They should not be too severely condemned: there is yet hope. When one thinks of the men who were willing to move earth and hell to permit the Massie crowd to escape punishment for a very barbarous killing, it is evident that there is no reason for surprise. Here is a part of the list: Representative Crisp of Georgia, Thatcher of Kentucky, Senators Logan of Kentucky and McKellar of Tennessee. I see no reason for surprise at anything these men might do. They are all [illegible] the bad lands of the South. Logan and Thatcher are out of Kentucky, Massie's home State.

There is cause for alarm, though, over the behavior of Senators Bingham of Connecticut and Copeland of New York. Bingham has been a Yale professor and has the reputation of being a first rate scholar. Copeland, by virtue of his long residence in New York—I do not know where he was born—where he has had contact with civilized men and women, would be expected to show some of the effects of a civilized environment. But Bingham, the Yale scholar, and Copeland, the educated medical man and senator from one of our most civilized States, have demonstrated that they have minds as primitive as the mind of Crisp from Georgia, from whom nothing of worth could be expected.

I was also surprised at the statements and actions of Dudley Field Malone. Mr. Malone thought and said that Mr. Hoover should override the courts of Hawaii and transfer the defendants to California, to the jurisdiction of the Federal circuit court there. To California! Where Mooney and Billings are held in the penitentiary for a crime that even the jurors and judge who tried them do not now believe they committed.

All of these men—Governor Judd, numerous editors and citizens of all classes and sorts—by their words and acts, have made this case one that can not and will not be closed. The New York Times quotes Senator Reed of Pennsylvania as saying: "I think Governor Judd has made a very serious mistake which will turn up to plague the future administration of justice in Hawaii." Senator Reed might have added that it will turn up to plague the administration of justice not only in Hawaii but in the whole United States. For what is it that Judd has done but say to the world and to citizens of the United States particularly, that whenever the interests of a certain class are in jeopardy, the members of this class ought not and shall not be called to account for their deeds. Judd has said to the Hawaiians and to minority groups in this country, that there is no justice for them, where it is necessary to punish members of the ruling class in order to grant justice to the under class. To be sure, this is nothing new, but it is well to call it to the attention of the under dog. The rulers here have said to the ruled: "If you get any privileges and rights from us you must take them, you cannot get any redress at law or equity because we control the courts, the press and the law-making bodies, and of course we will not permit any decisions or the dissemination of any opinion which is inimical to our interests. If we murder one of you, your only redress is to murder one or all of us. We believe in the strength of the strong, the tooth and the claw, and the law be damned whenever we get caught."

Some day, perhaps, the masses, both black and white, brown and yellow, English, American, French, German, Italian, Indian and whatnot, will understand and believe this. In that day not only should this case, and others like it, "turn up to plague the administration of justice in Hawaii," but everywhere throughout the world.

The contentions that I am making have nothing particularly to do with either the guilt of the Massie defendants or the guilt of the men who are alleged to have committed the rape. I am talking of the fact that the men and women who are insisting on complete pardon for the four killers are blind to the fact that they are guilty, by their own confessions, and to the fact that the alleged rapists have never been proven guilty. They also seem to have closed their eyes to certain strange aspects of this case. I should like to know, for instance, why Mrs. Massie left her husband and friends and went roaming outside in the dark alone. I should also like to know what were the rumors that Massie said were going around about him and his wife. I should, too, like to know how he and his fellow lynchers got that confession from Joseph Kahahawai. And, too, I would like to know why Massie waited so long before starting to vindicate his wife's honor? And I should like to know just how much truth there is in the report that white women are accustomed to disport themselvess rather loosely and intimately with the native men of the Pacific Islands. Perhaps Copeland, Crisp, McKellar and Logan know the answer to all these questions. And perhaps that is the reason why they got so mad.

TELLS OF "MASSIE MESS"

Courier 5-14-32

Reporter Gives Background Of Case and Tells How Missionary Hypocrisy Led To Trouble.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., May 12—(ANP)—In Hawaii 10 or 15 [illegible] ago the stage was being set for the racial commotion caused by the Massie trial and conviction. Arch Wallace, a former police reporter on the Honolulu Star Bulletin, who is a visitor in St. Louis, tells of the sharply defined social classes, of the importation of Portuguese, Chinese and Japanese to work on sugar plantations and of the army-navy bases established there.

"In those days," said Wallace, "some of the New England missionaries traded salvation for sugar lands of the Hawaiians. Then they had to import labor, because the natives refused to work. Soon shipfuls of Chinese and Japanese were brought to the island and dumped in pens or stockades."

These laborers were slaves in everything but name—being kept captive in the corrals until they consented to work on the plantations. Once they got on the sugar fields—miles away from the coast—they had little chance of escape.

"The arrogance of the whites, or Anglo-Saxons," continued Wallace, caused ill-feeling from the start. Then a generation of mixed races came into being, as a result of the labor importation. They were called 'hapa-holi.'

Soldiers and sailors made up another class—usually a belicose and belligerent one. They were continually scrapping with one another or the natives—mostly over a woman. In the tropics or semi-tropics, women and drink are intensified in importance.

"All this fighting increased the hatred of the dark races for the whites. The two different atmospheres, one frigidly moral, another unmoral, did not harmonize. Sooner or later the volcano of feeling had to erupt.

"Officers and their wives led a gay life there and the natives watched and observed these parties. Fearing and hating the nonranking soldiers, they kept their emotions partially in check. In my estimation, this is the background in which the Massie trial was set."

Clean Up Honolulu Vice

A police drive to clean up vice in Honolulu was in full swing last Tuesday under the personal direction of Chief of Police Charles Weeber, according to press dispatches. Fourteen white women were arrested and jailed in raids on disorderly houses maintained for all comers, six bootlegging resorts also were raided.

THE MASSIE CASE

Washington

D.C.

5-23-32

President Hoover as Commander in Chief of the Army and the Navy, and the Navy itself, are guilty of condoning kidnapping and murder as long as they permit Lieutenant Massie to remain a commissioned officer of the United States Navy. He is a self-confessed kidnapper and murderer and a duly convicted and sentenced murderer, and therefore a convict and a felon. The commutation of his sentence of ten years was not a pardon, and the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, and the Navy itself harbor this felon. Is it in keeping with the law and rules of the Navy of the United States to maintain, harbor and honor a convict? There is but one thing for the United States Navy to do and that is dishonorably discharge Lieutenant Massie.

The reaction of the Massie case in this country has opened the eyes of the world to the strength and extent of race prejudice. The United States of America, the most advanced and Christianized country in all the world has placed its stamp of approval upon kidnapping and mob murder. Notwithstanding it has recently condemned the gangster and kidnapper in the Lindbergh case, hypocracy seems to be a jewel in these Christianized United States instead of "consistency." The press, Representatives in Congress, representing their districts, even dignified Senators raced to get their statements in the papers and their resolutions in the Congressional Record endorsing mob murder. We deplore their actions and feel a deep regret that supposed sane men should let their race prejudice run away with their reason. Race prejudice as manifested in reaction to the Massie conviction, bespeaks the doom of our fair United States, the land of the free and the supposed home of the brave.

Prosecutor Kelly is to be commended for his effort to secure the conviction of the four kidnappers and conspirators in murder, although he did not go as far as he might have gone in producing more evidence and protecting his evidence by photostatic copy of the record Mrs. Massie destroyed on the stand. Judge Davis is to be commended for his sentencing the criminals to the limit of the law, and the jury for its verdict. Governor Judd is to be condemned for his jelly-like attitude in commuting the four criminals within an hour of their sentence. The United States Navy is to be condemned for sneaking Mrs. Massie out of Honolulu and harboring her on one of its boats. It is also to be condemned for harboring and maintaining a convict as an officer in its ranks. Massie must be discharged.

The papers styled this as an "honor slaying." Whose honor was protected in that murder? What is Mrs. Massie's reputation in Long Island, where she lived? If she was assaulted and beaten by the four men as she claimed, why did she not stay to testify against the other three? Why did Lieutenant Massie wait from last September until January of this year to kill the unconvicted man? The whole story has not been told. Was the Hawaiian killed to shut his mouth?

What is true of Lieut. Massie is also true of the two enlisted men, Jones and Lord, who were indicted, tried, found guilty and convicted, and given the same penalty, ten years in the penitentiary. They too had their sentences commuted, but their conviction stands and they are in the Navy yet. What will the Secretary of the Navy do about these three known convicts in the Navy?

As to Darrow, who only a few months ago accepted [illegible],000 from the N.A.A.C.P. to defend the eight Negro boys in the Scottsboro case, turned yellow and left the boys in the lurch, this same Darrow who had declared himself against mobs and mob murder, was foremost in the defense of this Massie mob and went down, as he should have, to inglorious defeat.

KELLY MILLER SAYS:

HONOLULU AND SCOTTSBORO

Tribune

Washington

D.C.

[illegible]/32

Honolulu. Scottsboro.

These two cities are now on the spot. There are striking resemblances and equally striking contrasts between the horrible happenings which have recently centered about them. In both instances, non-white males have been accused of assault on white women. Both sets of culprits have been brought before courts of justice—in the one case before a racially mixed jury, and in the other before a jury of white men. In case of the Hawaians, the jury disagreed. In case of the Alabama Negroes the death penalty was imposed. The Hawaian verdict aroused the ire of the Anglo-Saxon contingent of the Islands. The Scottsboro outcome pleased the local whites but aroused the sense of outraged justice of the outside world. One of the Hawaian culprits was snatched from the hands of the law and lynched by friends and relatives of the outraged woman. A mixed jury brought a verdict of homicide against the lynchers. The Scottsboro boys have remained secure in jail pending further legal procedure in their behalf. The world does not believe that they have received a fair, constitutional trial. In Honolulu the verdict of guilty against the lynchers again stirred the race spirit of the Anglo-Saxons of the Island, although seven Anglo-Saxons on the jury concurred in the verdict. The announcement was received in America with great excitement and consternation. The press all but unanimously condemned the verdict and condoned the act of lynching. The sane and sedate United States Senate allowed itself to be carried away on a wave of racial feeling and to enact precipitiously an ex-post facto law which is plainly contrary to the Constitution. The inflamed feeling of the Anglo-Saxon race aroused by such assaults sweeps them beyond the restraints of law or the bounds of reason. In any other civilized country of the globe, the law would be allowed to take its unhindered course. In both communities the heated passion of race will not allow the operation of due process of law. At Scottsboro the raging public opinion made impossible a fair and impartial trial. The same thing is charged in Honolulu. But there is this world of difference between the two cases. The public opinion of Scottsboro is all on one side of the racial line. Whatever the Negro may think or feel has no weight with either court of Jury. But in the Hawaian Islands, the public opinion is composit, involving the constituent feelings and attitudes of the various racial elements of the population. We have hitherto been in the habit [illegible] looking upon the Hawaian Islands as being the ideal laboratory [illegible] race relations. Here Caucasian, Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, Hawaian, and the varied cross progenics lived, we are told, in peace, harmony, and good will, without racial bitterness or prejudice. I recall hearing the late Charles Cottrell, Collector of Customs for Honolulu recite the instance of a cosmopolitan banquet where representatives of the varied racial groups sat about the festive board. A member of Congress from Alabama was the guest of honor and delivered the chief address. This orthodox Southerner congratulated the Islands on the racial friendship and amity that everywhere prevailed. But added that all of this was due to the absence of the Negro, claiming that a single representative of that race would polute and poison the whole equation. Whereupon Mr. Cottrell arose and put himself in evidence as a refutation of the Southerner's theory. But be that as it may have been, today we are rudely awakened from our dream of a racial paradise in the Pacific. The same fury and rage aroused at any violent attempt to cross the color line there as in Alabama.

No man who has respect for his own intellectual and moral integrity would care to risk his reputation by asserting that the Honolulu verdict, arrived at by a mixed jury, is not in harmony with the facts and the law. It was not the outcome of the case itself but its gruesome background that aroused the evil spirit of race. I think that few honest men would dare say that the Scottsboro verdict was in harmony with the facts and the law, but was dictated by an irrefragable racial policy and wrung from court and jury by a threatening public opinion. A mixed jury in Honolulu was more obedient to the obligation of their oath than the one-race jury at Scottsboro. Negroes are excluded from the jury in the South. At the same time there are more frequent and flagrant miscarriages of justice in the South than in any other part of the civilized world. In a mixed community, where the racial factor and feeling enter, a one race jury is not calculated to do justice. No Negro has a fair trial by a jury of his peers, when his own racial variety is excluded from the jury box. That seven white men agreed with five-non-white men in the Honolulu verdict proves conclusively that a mixed jury need not frustrate or vitiate justice.

The motto of Abraham Lincoln is true when amended: "No race is good enough to govern or judge another race without its consent and participation in the government and judgment."

Lynchings-1932

Negro Press, (Northern)

3638

Discussions

White 'Prof' Claims Fear Causes Most Lynchings In South

Courier 1-9-32

Pittsburgh, Pa.

NEW YORK, Jan. 7—(By CNS)—That fear is the predominant element responsible for the large numbers of lynchings of Negroes in the South, is the conclusion drawn by Prof. Howard W. Odum, member of the Southern Commission on Lynching and professor at the University of North Carolina, in a recent article on the subject in the Nation.

Dr. Odum wrote:

"First we come to the elemental factor of fear with its many ramifications. It is not primarily that the South is traditionally afraid of Negro domination. It might seem logical to assign this as an important factor in those regions where the Negro predominates numerically and where conceivably he might become master of voting and control. But these regions are not the only ones where lynchings occur or where the most barbaric anti-social conduct is found. What, therefore, are the other phases of the fear-force which condition the region for this particular sort of anti-social behavior? It seems apparent that the general fear which lies at the basis of the lynching phenomenon involves many other features. The Negro is troublesome to ourp eace of mind, though we do not quite know how or why. He is making a great deal of progress in many different ways. He may become a different sort of person from what we now think he ought to be. He may become an intimate part of our civilization and culture. He may really be our equal. We may really be wrong in our estimate of him. We fear what will happen in the future. He has to be kept in his place. We are not really afraid of the Negro himself. We are afraid of the prospect. Our thought of it is beyond the control of anything except our emotional conditioning. What are we going to do about it? We are uneasy. But we let things drift along, and when something happens, the easiest way is the way of violence and emotional debauch. And we struggle with fear and misgivings and rage that we should get into such a fix. And the Negro must pay.

"And then we are afraid of what we have done. Our conscience is the conscience of a religious people. It is written that we must protect our women and our race. It is written that the Negro is a hewer of wood and a drawer of water. Written or not written, we have done right and will stand by it and see that the sacred whiteness of our race shall not be violated. We are dangerous to those who oppose us. We are hostile to those who reason. We are afraid, and it makes us mad."

Urges Democrats to Act Against Lynching

Afro-American

1-2-32

NEW YORK—(ANP)—In the principal speech before the Chicopee Democratic Club of the 21st assembly district the largest, Democratic club in the colored district in New York City, James C. Thomas, former assistant United States attorney, drove the opening wedge in a campaign, seeking the aid of the Democratic party in arousing public sentiment against lynching in the United States.

He told his audience that the greatest weapon against lynching in the United States is to mould public opinion to the extent that it will react to all such practices and finally result in its abolition. Legislation wil lnot cure the situation, he asserted, He stated in conclusion that the colored man had tried the Republican party for so many years, had trusted it, and has found it wanting, and that on the other hand, he is willing to support the Democratic party if it will support him.

Baltimore Autoist Menaced

RIDGELY, Md.—This town, although 50 miles from Salisbury, Md. where a lynching took place four weeks ago, is still in the grip of anti-Negro terrorists.

Afro-American

Residents here report that orders have been sent out to permit no colored people in town after 6 o'clock p.m.

A near inter-racial riot was thwarted here two weeks ago when school children and older boys fought on their way home from school. Commissioners appealed to forestalled an effort of gangsters to drive all colored people out of stores and off the streets.

1/9/32

Curfew at Ridgely

SUDLERSVILLE, Lynchtown Shore, Md.—En route from Baltimore to Preston, Md., Christmas Eve, Walter Townsend of 28 Pratt Street, was assaulted by a crowd of five or six white hoodlums while parked on the state road talking to a police officer.

The policeman had aided Townsend find a garage where the latter purchased a rear tire and put it on his car. Townsend was about to crank his auto when the whites drove up, took the crank from his hand, cursed and threatened him while the officer stood mute.

Weary of tormenting a man who didn't answer back, the toughs piled into their car and drove off. The policeman made no com

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ANTI-MOB REPORT ADOPTED BY M.E. BOARD

Afro-American

1/9/32

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Characterizing the recent anti-lynch protest made by the district superintendents of the Washington area of the M.E. Church as "most dignified and statesmanlike," the M.E. Board of Temperance, Prohibition and Public Morals adopted the report without any changes, in their annual meeting, Thursday, at 100 Maryland Avenue northeast.

The church group, which represented Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania, condemned the atrocities in West Virginia and Maryland in which three men were done to death.

The report was presented as a resoluton to the board by the Rev. Robert F. Coates, district superintendent of the Washington area, who was the only colored minister among the twenty members. Without dissension, the board promptly adopted the entire report and the following resolution:

"Resolved, That we take special notice of the resolution of the district superintendents of the Washington Conference against the lynching of three men in Lewisburg, W.Va., and Salisbury, Md., and we commend to the Church this strong statement made against lynching as an evil, according to the appended resolution."

The protest made by the superintendents and adopted by the board was carried in January 9th issue of the AFRO-AMERICAN.

The board adopting the resolution includes: Messrs. Charles H. Tompkins, R. M. Benett, Harry Bryer, Dr. Benjamin W. Meeks, Everett M. Ellison, the Rev. J. H. Daugherty, the Rev. Frederick H. Spence, John W. Vickerman, Harry W. Price;

The Rev. Stephen J. Hebron, J. C. Penney, John Raine, the Rev. Morris E. Swarts, Arthur H. Sapp, the Rev. Robert F. Coates, the Rev. George Mecklenburg, Maurice Otterback, Dr. E. M. Ellison, Luke R. Bootes, Maurice Otterback, Dr. Clarenre True Wilson and Bishop W. F. McDowell. McDowell.

In an interview with the AFRO-AMERICAN, the Rev. Mr. Coates stated that as a result of the protest made by the group, letters expressing sympathy and pledging cooperation have been received from: W. G. Conley, governor of West Virginia; Albert C. Ritchie, governor of Maryland; Charles Curtis, Vice-President of the United States; Bishop W. F. McDowell, senior bishop of the M.E. Church; P. L. Goldsborough, Senator of Maryland; John M. Garner, speaker of the House of Representatives;

Carl Murphy, president of the AFRO-AMERICAN Company, and Dr. W. A. C. Hughes, secretary of the Bureau of Negro Work, Board of Home Missions and Church Extension of the M.E. Church.

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31 WHITE M.E. MINISTERS ASK RITCHIE TO ACT

Afro-American

Resolution Asks Officials to Redeem State's Good Name.

1/23/32

CHURCHES AND CITIZENS BLAMED

Whole State Has Failed to Prevent Injustice.

Declaring that while Salisbury is primarily responsible for the lynching which occurred there several weeks ago, the whole state is partly involved, and asking Governor Ritchie and state officials to redeem the good name of the state by bringing the lynchers to justice, a group of 31 white M.E. ministers sent a resolution to this effect to the State House this week.

The resolution, together with the names of those who signed it, follows:

"We, the undersigned of the M.E. ministry of Baltimore and vicinity join with the better thinking people of Salisbury in expressing our horror over the recent hanging and burning of Matthew Williams, and look with confidence to the citizens of that city to redeem the good name of their community and our state. As deplorable as is the crime of murder, there is in civilized society no provocation which justifies appeal to lynch law.

"We commend both state and local officials who have assured the state that they will bring the perpetrators of this crime to speedy and adequate punishment.

"We believe, however, that while the immediate responsibility for this particular crime will rest upon Salisbury, all of us are partly involved. We have failed to prevent racial injustice, suspicion and hatreds to exist, which has created in all our communities inflamable conditions.

"As preachers and churches we have not succeeded in winning the people generally to the spirit of brotherhood irrespective of race and creed which makes such deeds unthinkable.

"We humbly pledge ourselves to vigilance in the future in preventing conditions out of which such horrors come."

Signed by Reverends:

L. St. Clair Allen, Chapsworth Church; King D. Beach, First; M. L. Beale, Fourth; Chas. W. Baldwin, retired minister; Don S. Colts, Govans; H. T. Chandler, Relay; G. Custer Cromwell, Woodlawn; William H. Easton, Morgan College; John T. Ensor, associate minister at First Church; Thomas E. Ehlers, Harford Circuit; Solomon German, retired; E. C. Israel, Monkton; John E. Holt, Hunt's Memorial; Robert W. Hanford, Landsdowne; Thomas Hart, Exeter Memorial;

Frank Reid Isaac, West Baltimore Station; Daniel W. Justice, Glyndon; William A. Keese, Towson; James L. McLain, Sparrows Point; R. L. Mowbray, Highland Town; John C. Millian, director of religious education; Orris E. Robinson, Westminster; J. M. Rogers, Memorial; E. Cranston Riggins, Whitesville; J. O. Spencer, president of Morgan College; C. E. Seymour, Halethorpe; C. Arthur Sadofsky, Monroe Street; Asbury Smith, Arlington; E. R. Spencer, Ward's Chapel; Norman Trott, Arbutus; Clarence C. Wise, district superintendent.

FEAR AS A FACTOR IN LYNCHING.

In the last number of the Nation for 1931, there appeared an article written by Howard W. Odum, a North Carolina writer and educator, who undertook to analyze the report of the Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching. In reviewing the facts presented in this report, Mr. Odum sought to uncover their meaning in so far as the phenomenon of lynching in the Southern states is concerned. Among other things, he considered the elemental factor of fear with its many ramifications. This is the way that Prof. Odum analyzed that fear: Age 1-9-32

It is not primarily that the South is traditionally afraid of Negro domination. It might seem logical to assign this as an important factor in those regions where the Negro predominates numerically and where conceivably he might become master of voting and of control. But these regions are not the only ones where lynchings occur or where the most barbaric anti-social conduct is found. What, therefore, are the other phases of the fear-force which condition the region for this particular sort of anti-social behavior? It seems apparent that the general fear which lies at the basis of the lynching phenomenon involves many other features.

New York,

The Negro is troublesome to our peace of mind, though we do not quite know how or why. He is making a great deal of progress in many different ways. He may become a different sort of person from what we now think he ought to be. He may become an intimate part of our civilization and culture. He may really be our equal. We may really be wrong in our estimates of him. We fear what will happen in the future. He has to be kept in his place. We are not really afraid of the Negro himself. We are afraid of the prospect. Our thought of it is beyond the control of anything except our emotional conditioning. What are we going to do about it? We are uneasy. something happens, the easiest way is the somethin ghappens, the easiest way is the way of violence and emotional debauch. And we struggle with fear and misgivings and rage that we should get into such a fix. And the Negro must pay.

And after the deed is done, then the perpetrators, including the community that sanctioned it by silence or passivity, become afraid of what they have done. According to Mr. Odum, the conscience of the white South is the conscience of a religious people. Then how can they reconcile the practice of lynching with the profession of religion? He can only say, "It is written that we must protect our women and our race." But the representative women of the South, in their meeting at Atlanta a few weeks ago, protested that "lynching is not a defense of womanhood, but rather a menace to private and public safety, and a deadly blow at our most sacred institutions."

If Mr. Odum is right in his conclusions as to the part fear plays in lynching, it would seem to be necessary to find some way to eradicate this fear, or at least supplant it by a stronger emotion. This fear which militates against vigorous protest and action, is defined as a product of what Mr. Odum calls the "folkways," meaning thereby the fundamental behavior of human society as distinguished from the rules laid down by law. How to change this fundamental behavior is the problem.

N.Y. DETECTIVE RECALLS STATE'S 1911 LYNCHING

Afro-American

Archer Owens Employed by Goldsborough to Find the Killers.

2-14-32

POSED AS CROOK, STOREKEEPER

Afro-American

Detective Defied Threat to Testify at Trial.

NEW YORK — Maryland's failure to bring to justice the recent Salisbury lynchers is recalled in an article printed in the current number of Opportunity, in which Archer B. Owens, famous operator for the Val Farrell Detective Agency, tells how he tracked down the men who lynched King Johnson at Fairfield, near Baltimore, in 1911.

In the article, which is an interview written by Elmer A. Carter, the editor, Mr. Owens tells how while working for the William J. Burns Detective Agency, Burns was asked by Governo r Goldsborough to take charge of the case, and he was sent down to "rope" the lynchers.

Christmas Morning

It was on Christmas morning, the article recalls, that King Johnson, accused of killing a white man working with him in a fertilizer plant at Fairfield, was taken out of the county jail and shot to death. Five white and one colored man participated in the lynching.

Governor Goldsborough was determined that the lynchers should be brought to justice, and employed the Burns agency.

"I went to Fairfield," said Detective Owens, "got a job in the fertilizer factory, became acquainted with white and black workers and started out to find the lynchers."

Defied Warning

After working for awhile as a fertilizer laborer, Mr. Owens was forced to quit because of the effect of the work upon him, and opened a second hand store where he operated a crap game in the rear. Within a few months, as a good spender, easy gambler, and general good fellow, he secured sufficient evidence upon which to convict the men.

Although warned that he would be killed if he went back to testify, he defied the warning, and went back to Maryland and saw the men sent to prison.

Lynchers Known

In the recent Salisbury lynching, many of the men who took part in the orgy of murder and burning are known to officials of the city. Governor Ritchie ordered an investigation, but to date nothing has been done which indicates that the lynchers will be brought to justice.

LYNCHING DIES SLOWLY

From the Lewiston (Idaho) Tribune

Call 2-5-32 Kansas City, Mo.

Much has been said in late years of the law's delay. Legal minds defend, as they say, the spirit of judicial fairness which prolongs the period between crime and punishment. Unfortunately in exhausting the last possibility of trial error, all too frequently the guilty escape because time has moved on and their crimes have paled in retrospect. To the lay mind, criminal prosecution has become a game in which the skilled player wins.

With the fairness of that view it is not necessary to deal now. But because it exists a black spot is spread each year upon the fair name of the country. The action of the mobs that end the lives of convicted criminals cannot be condoned.

It is worthy of consideration, however, that there was a sharp drop in the number of lynchings last year, as reported by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which keeps careful track of such things. Despite all the unrest of the past year we did make commendable progress in this respect. To realize how far we advanced it is only necessary to compare the totals for 1891 with 1931, thirty years later, as follows

1891	192
1892	255
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Since 1885, the earliest year in which a record was compiled, there has been 4,326 people sacrificed on the alter of mob passion. Georgia and Mississippi lead in the number of lynchings, with more than 450 each, but these incidents are not confined to the south. Only six states in the union have a clear record, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Rhode Island and Vermont. Idaho has contributed thirteen lynchings to the grim total, twelve whites and one Negro being the victims of this peremptory Gem state justice.

It is a depressing record. But there is hope in the long view of the problem. Better education and a slowly rising standard of public intelligence is pushing back these outbursts of sadistic lawlessness, in spite of the discouraging history.

The time may come when there will be no lynchings in the United States, and this barbarous practice will take its place with the persecution of witches as a historical curiosity. It represents neither courage nor justice.

ON THE EASTERN "SHO"

Afro-American

By PAUL HENDERSON

(AFRO Staff Photographer)

2-5-32

You can bet your life that the Eastern Shore, especially Salisbury, Maryland's lynch town, has felt the sting and pressure brought to bear by the press and the outside world in general. This fact was sustained by Judge Bailey recently when he charged the Wicomico County grand jury to probe the lynching of Matthew Williams, which took place last December, and until this week went uninvestigated. I had the pleasure, or nerve, to be in Salisbury the day after the lynching and also the day that the grand jury was paneled, which was last Monday. It is plainly seen that people on this peninsula have been converted. A quiet mysterious atmosphere prevails around the old court house where the boy was hanged. Young "Dan" Elliot is still running his father's saw mill where Williams is alleged to have shot the elder Dan.

Officials themselves have expressed doubt as to Williams's guilt and close friends and relatives are very quick to say: "We don't believe the boy did it." Don't be surprised if the jurymen look over their glasses with a suspicious eye on young Dan.

The court room is one of those old fashioned places with "built-in" benches, extremely high, clear windows, and bare, dust-worn walls. In one corner is the clerk and, of course, the jury box in the other. Twenty-three "gentlemen," all white, filled the stand as they were selected. Those who were not bald-headed had long, ashy hair extending down their necks. The foreman and another gentleman, however, showed signs of having been freshly barbered. About 200 spectators filled the seats on the "white" side with but two AFRO reporters and four colored men on the "colored" side.

At recess, those who did not bring their pork and bread went to nearby lunch rooms for their soup. As the afternoon session neared, fellow

Lynchings-1932

Discussions.

Negro Press, (Northern)

3639

Texas Lauded By Anti-Lynch Group For Clean 1931 Slate; Must Respect More, Say

Courier 1-30-32 Pittsburgh, Pa.

DALLAS, Tex., Jan. 28—Expressing gratitude for the second year without a Texas lynching, resolutions passed last Thursday morning at the Baker hotel by the Texas council, Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching, urged that communities where mobs threaten "be given closer scrutiny to uncover the seeds of lawlessness and lust that too often end in lynchings."

The meeting, which was held a little over a year from the organization meeting of the council, also authorized that letters of commendation be sent to all sheriffs of Texas for the year's record.

Texas was not listed among the states having one or more lynchings, in the Tuskegee report, which was accepted as authentic by the council, though a Negro was shot to death at Beaumont during the period under what might be construed as mob circumstances, it was said.

Can't Feel Complacent

The resolution, which was read by Mrs. Olivia Davis, secretary, declared that "grateful as we are that Texas through the courage and foresight of her sheriffs and the cooperation of Governor Sterling," completed the year without lynching, "we cannot feel complacent."

"Lynching," said the resolution, "still exists as an unpunished crime. In the country's record of 15 outbreaks there is no case where leaders received the extreme penalty of murder provided by law."

The resolution went on to say that the excitement of a "man-hunt" produces a lust for vengeance that is beyond sane human control. This is also true of "posses," it was said. In the past year 88 persons, including two white women, were saved from the hands of mobs, reflecting well upon sheriffs, but disgracefully upon the communities involved, it was said.

"We condemn mobs without reservation, as an inevitable factor in all lynchings, and we recommend that a closer scrutiny be given to those communities in which mobs are frustrated," it read.

Later the name of Adjutant General Sterling, for his use of the rangers in preventing lynching, was added for commendation.

Lynching Is Crime

sheriffs said that "evidently the conviction is growing stronger each year throughout the South that lynching is itself a crime, the victims of which are the citizens of the community in which it takes place."

Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames, Atlanta, director, outlined the history of lynching for the past ten years. Of the eight lynchings in the South last year, five were in Mississippi and Florida alone, she said.

Mrs. J. L. Brock, Bryan, chairman, presided. Others attending included: Mrs. John M. Hanna, Mrs. George Sprague of Dallas; Mrs. Florence Robinson, Mrs. Raymond Buckley, Mrs. W. B. Landrum and Mrs. F. P. Culver, Fort Worth; Miss Mary Shipp Sanders, Austin; Mrs. J. J. Johnson, Sulphur Springs; Mrs. J. M. Quinn, Navasota and Mrs. B. A. Hodges, Waxahachie.

Governor Ritchie, Lynching and Colored Police for Baltimore.

Afro American 1-30-32

To the Editor of the AFRO:

I have just finished reading Governor Ritchie's speech at the Concord Club Dinner in which he made a bid for the Democratic Nomination which, if he is successful, may make him president of the United States.

Several weeks ago I wrote you endorsing the Governor for President. Since then his failure to have the Salisbury lynchers punished has changed my mind.

Democratic friends in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and New York have written me that they will not support Governor Ritchie as long as 142,000 colored people in Baltimore can not get him to appoint one of their number to the police force.

No doubt, the Governor is mindful that the colored vote is the balance of power in several states above the Ohio and Potomac Rivers and these voters are more interested in rights than rum, hence, he will have to answer these questions:

Why is it that colored people in Maryland do not hold either elective or appointive political positions in this State under the Democratic party?

Why is it that colored people in Maryland are barred from being officers of the law in this State while colored officers patrol the streets of several towns in Texas, Tennessee and other Southern states?

If the aspirant for the Presidency will not allow us to police our own districts "in the name of all of the gods at once" who would believe that he would appoint one of our group to a federal position in the event he is elected President, or take a firm stand against mob violence?

HENRY F. ARNOLD.

Baltimore, Md.

"POOR WHITE TRASH"

Age [illegible] New York

"Emaciated men, women and children with dirty clothes and unkempt person, spiritually as well as economically under-privileged-husbands with their wives and children growing old while young." This striking word picture of the poor whites in the South was drawn by George Fort Milton, publisher of the Chattanooga (Tenn.) News, and chairman of the Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching, in an address before the Georgia Press Institute.

These people live in an environment in which seething fatalism and pessimism are to be seen on every hand, and are quite ready to illuminate their drab, narrow fruitless lives by the excitements and emotional releases of burning torch and shrieking victims, Mr. Milton told his audience.

As a partial solution to the lynching problem it was recommended that the South recognize its social viewpoint so justice rather than hysteria, hate and fear control the adjudication and responsibility for crime.

It is a most encouraging sign when the forward-thinking men and women of the South are courageous enough to conduct an unbiased survey of conditions leading to racial conflicts and make public their findings without adhering to the old practice of putting the entire blame on the Negro and giving the whites a clean bill of health. To recognize and admit openly that the poor, ignorant white is a menace to civilization and disrespecter of law and order is a big thing to do.

Objections to the Milton point of view might be raised by the Heflins, Bleases and other demagogues whose political ascendency in the past has been viciously engineered by appealing to the baser passions of these poor, benighted souls, who have been taught to believe themselves superior because of the light complexion of their skin. To refer to their skin as white would be a misnomer; for usually it is sallow and sickly as the appearance of their depressing surroundings.

The New South is beginning to realize if every Negro were given an education an acute race problem would still exist because of the illiterate whites, who in nine cases out of ten provoke racial outbursts and do not stop at anything to maintain what has become an obsession—"race supremacy."

With constructive forces now at work in the Southland seeking to bring order out of chaos on the basis of justice rather than hysteria, hate and fear, maybe the "poor white trash," as they have so long been contemptuously called by Negroes, can be brought to the full realization that being white, malignant and malicious neither makes one superior, prosperous nor happy.

America should applaud George Fort Milton and those of his school of thought for their impartiality, candor and moral courage.

LYNCHING DIES SLOWLY

Christian Advocate

1-28-32

Cincinnati Ohio

MUCH has been said in late years of the law's delay. Legal minds defend, as they say, the spirit of judicial fairness which prolongs the period between crime and punishment. Unfortunately, in exhausting the last possibility of trial error, all too frequently the guilty escape because time has moved on and their crimes have paled in retrospect. To the lay mind, criminal prosecution has become a game in which the skilled player wins.

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Eye-Witness Exposes Inhuman Brutality Of Salisbury Mob

Courier

3-12-32

Pittsburgh, Pa.

NEW YORK, Mar. 10—(By CNA) — Brutalities overshadowing in horror all the facts previously known about the lynching of Matthew Williams in Salisbury, Md., on Dec. 6th, are described in a letter from an eye-witness to the lynching, which has come into the hands of the editors of the Crusader News Agency..

That the local officials of Salisbury know very well who the leaders of the lynch-mob were, is the charge made in this letter. Although almost three months have passed since this brutal murder of a Negro worker, no arrests have occurred, and no move has been made to investigate the lynching, in spite of repeated promises of action by Governor Ritchie and State's Attorney Lane.

Asked Wage Raise

It will be remembered that Williams was shot and lynched as the result of his request to Daniel J. Elliott, owner of the Salisbury crate and basket factory, for a slight increase in his wages of 15 cents an hour.

The letter of the eye-witness to the lynching is printed below in full. The writer is a worker. His name is withheld only because its publication would probably result in another lynching. The letter was written to William Powell, organizer of the Baltimore branch of the League of Struggle for Negro Rights. The letter follows:

"Dear Mr. Powell:

"The lynching of M. Williams in this town was the most brutal sight human eyes could witness. And it certainly has brought a black gloom over the entire State.

"Everyone down here knows just who led the mob that lynched this man, everybody here knows who it was that shot him while he was in the hands of the police.

"I can not even write you, or explain to you how horrible the whole thing was.

"Make 'Nigger' Sandwiches"

"First they dragged him to the court house square, and hanged him, then they cut him down, tied the rope to the back of an auto, and dragged him to the Negro section of the town. They then got about 40 or 50 gallons of gasoline, but before they threw this gas over him, they cut off his fingers and toes, threw them on the porches and in the yards of the Negro homes, shouting these remarks, 'that they (the Negroes) could make 'nigger' sandwiches out of them.' Then they threw the gas over him, set a match to him, and while the human torch burned, they passed booze around, drinking and shouting.

"They also warned the Negroes that they would burn their homes down, if they heard as much as a whisper out of them.

Keep Negroes Off Streets

"They also told the Negroes not to be seen on the town streets after 9 p. m., under penalty of death; even now, weeks after the lynching, the Negroes are not seen on the streets of the town after 9 p. m.

"We would like to know if something cannot be done to punish the leaders of this crime."

Whitewash for Maryland's Lynch Town, Salisbury

Afro American

4/9/32

Four months after an undisguised mob in Salisbury, Maryland's Lynch Town, took an alleged murderer from a hospital, and, in the presence of hundreds, hanged him in front of the courthouse, dragged his body through the public streets, publicly burned it and mutilated it, a grand jury declared after four days of purported investigation and deliberation:

"We find there is absolutely no evidence that can remotely connect anyone with the instigation or perpetration of the murder."

It is to be noted, of course, that this grand jury terms a lynching a murder, and talks of "PERPETRATION" instead of "PARTICIPATION."

What Salisbury and Maryland suffer from in this case is not due to lack of witnesses, for 120 of them filed before the grand jury during the four days it sat. Also there testified two detectives from Baltimore who made an investigation of the lynching and State's Attorney General William Preston Lane who for three months has investigated the case representing Governor Ritchie.

Back in 1911, Archer Owens, black detective, unaided, investigated a lynching at Fairfield, Maryland, acting for Governor Phillips Lee Goldsborough. He secured enough evidence to convict the lynchers and send them to prison.

Maryland needs a state anti-lynching law and a stern governor, declares the Baltimore morning *Sun*. Perhaps it does. However, we can punish lawless criminals without any new laws, provided the governor will enforce the laws which we have, and provided there are at least 23 American citizens on the backward and barbarous Eastern Shore of this state who have decency enough to respect the laws they have made themselves.

Little comfort can be drawn from the fact that the Chesapeake Bay separates the Lynching Shore of Maryland from its more civilized Western part.

What we need immediately from the next legislature is, to be sure, a state anti-mob law; but what we must have ultimately is a bridge across the Bay so that missionaries may carry sweetness and light to the benighted and ignorant heathen in the Salisbury area.

Lynchings-1932.

Discussions.

Negro Press, Northern..

3645

Inescapable Comparison Of Honolulu, Scottsboro

5-11-32

N.Y.

By KELLY MILLER

HONOLULU and Scottsboro—these two cities are ad[illegible] the spot. There are striking resemblances and equally striking contrasts between the horrible happenings which have recently centered about them. In both instances, non-white males have been accused of assault on white women. Both sets of culprits have been brought before courts of justice—in the one case before a racially mixed jury, and in the other before a jury of white men.

Amsterdam News

Kelly Miller.

In the case of the Hawaiians the jury disagreed. In case of the Alabama Negroes the death penalty was imposed. The Hawaiian verdict aroused the ire of the Anglo-Saxon contingent of the Islands. The Scottsboro outcome pleased the local whites but aroused the sense of outraged justice of the outside world. One of the Hawaiian culprits was snatched from the hands of the law and lynched by friends and relatives of the outraged woman. A mixed jury brought a verdict of homicide against the lynchers. The Scottsboro boys have remained secure in jail pending further legal procedure in their behalf. The world does not believe that they have received a fair, constitutional trial.

In Honolulu the verdict of guilty against the lynchers again stirred the race spirit of the Anglo-Saxons of the island, although seven Anglo-Saxons on the jury concurred in the verdict. The announcement was received in America with great excitement and consternation. The press all but unanimously condemned the verdict and condoned the act of lynching.

The sane and sedate United States Senate allowed itself to be carried away on a wave of racial [illegible] to enact precipitously an ex-post facto law which is plainly contrary to the Constitution. The inflammed feeling of the Anglo-Saxon race aroused by such assaults sweeps them beyond the restraints of law or the bounds of reason.

In any other civilized country of the globe the law would be allowed to take its unhindered course. In both communities the heated passion of race will not allow the operation of due process of law. At Scottsboro the raging public opinion made impossible a fair and impartial trial. The same thing is charged in Honolulu. But there is this world of difference between the two cases:

The public opinion of Scottsboro is all on one side of the racial line. Whatever the Negro may think or feel has no weight with either court or jury. But in the Hawaiian Islands the public opinion is composite, involving the constituent feelings and attitudes of the various racial elements of the population. We have hitherto been in the habit of looking upon the Hawaiian Islands as being the ideal laboratory of race relation. Here Caucasian, Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, Hawaiian and the varied cross progenics lived, we were told, in peace, harmony and good-will, without racial bitterness or prejudice.

I recall hearing the late Charles Cottrell, Collector of Customs for Honolulu, recite the instance of a cosmopolitan banquet where representatives of the varied racial groups sat about the festive board. A member of Congress from Alabama was the guest of honor and delivered the chief address. This orthodox southerner congratulated the islands on the racial friendship and amity that everywhere prevailed. But added that all of this was due to the absence of the Negro, claiming that a single representative of that race would pollute and poison the whole equation. Whereupon Mr. Cottrell arose and put himself in evidence as a refutation of the southerner's theory. But be that as it may have been, today we are rudely awakened from our dream of a racial paradise in the Pacific. The same fury was aroused at any violent attempt to cross the color line there as in Alabama.

No man who has respect for his own intellectual and moral integrity would care to risk his reputation by asserting that the Honolulu verdict, arrived at by a mixed jury, is not in harmony with the facts and the law. It was not the outcome of the case itself but its gruesome background that aroused the evil spirit of race.

I think that few honest men would dare say that the Scottsboro verdict was in harmony with the facts and the law, but was dictated by an irrefragable racial policy and wrung from court and jury by a threatening public opinion. A mixed jury in Honolulu was more obedient to the obligation of their oath than the one-race jury at Scottsboro. Negroes are excluded from the jury in the South. At the same time there are more frequent and flagrant miscarriages of justice in the South than in any other part of the civilized world. In a mixed community, where the racial factor and feeling enter, a one-race jury is not calculated to do justice. No Negro has a fair trial by a jury of his peers when his own racial variety is excluded from the jury box. That seven white men agreed with five non-white men in the Honolulu verdict proves conclusively that a mixed jury need not frustrate or vitiate justice.

The motto of Abraham Lincoln is true when amended: "No race is good enough to govern or judge another race without its consent and participation in the government and judgment."

THE MASSIE VERDICT

Chicago Defender 5/7/32

Lynch law has met its first defeat, but not in America.

The now famous Massie "honor murder" in Honolulu has come to a fitting close. The murderers have been convicted, and justly so. Law and order—at least in Honolulu—is still accepted as sound principles upon which government exists.

Fortunately in Honolulu Prosecutor John C Kelley lived up to his oath of office. In the face of powerful, influential newspapers, exerting every despicable effort at their command to prevent both the defense and the state from obtaining a fair trial, the putridity with which they sought to undermine justice was in keeping with what Americans call a square deal.

The facts were evident to everyone that the jury had but one question to consider, and that was, Did the defendants take Kahahawai out and lynch him? There was no other question for their consideration. And at the conclusion of the presentation of the evidence they found that they did, and upon that finding they rendered a verdict of guilty.

The civilized world would have been amazed at any other verdict. There was no need in the first instance of the insidious propaganda which was carried on by the American press in an effort to divert the properly constituted authorities from giving the defendants a fair trial. The Massies were guilty of murder and nothing else. The president knows it and the American people know it.

Kahahawai was accused of a serious offense. He had been duly arrested and indicted and was awaiting trial. He was responding to the requirements of the law and was reporting daily to the constituted authorities of the state. While performing every obligation imposed upon him he was deliberately kidnaped, not by citizens, but by a ranking officer of the American navy aided by two subordinates and a lady of alleged culture and refinement, and lynched.

Granting that the charge of rape embodies a serious offense against society, yet it is one of the many crimes which comes within the purview of our constitutional provisions and does not require any outside agency to enforce the enactment.

The Massies violated the sanctity of the law with the apparent belief that they would be rescued from its penalty by their social standing and their high positions in the American navy. Official position and social standing do not supersede nor contravene the Constitution. The right to kill is delegated only by legal authority and in time of war.

The American press strove hard to reflect upon the morality of the people of Honolulu in their efforts to ameliorate the gravity of the crime of the Massies. It may be true that their morals are not what they should be, but has America stopped to take an inventory of the morals of the American white man? If so what is the verdict? Does his history show that he has ever drawn any line when it comes to the debauchery of women? The American white man has ruthlessly invaded the womanhood of every race with no regard to color nationality nor social standing. He has bastardized every country and port in which ships of American commerce have anchored. He has left behind him, not only a trail of his progeny, but his death-reeking diseases as well.

The flagrant violation of the moral code has been one of the white man's hobbies. A mere glance at the records in divorce courts of his own country tell a story too horrible for public print. It has been his stock in trade on every occasion when he wanted to perform a dishonorable deed to hide behind the skirts of his women. He has prostituted the high meaning of the word honor to clothe his dirt and filth with a garment of respectability. Now he attempts to bring the president of the United States within the shadow of disrespect and dishonor by urging him to become a party to the diabolical scheme of sustaining lynch law.

President Hoover commands the army and navy. Massie is a lieutenant in the navy. The president cannot afford to command lynchers. God forbid that that precedent will ever be established.

MISS. LED 1931 LYNCH LEAGUE

Afro-American 5/21/32

NEW YORK—Mississippi led the United States lynching league in 1931 with three, according to a report just released by the N.A.A.C.P., which shows a total of 1 such crimes last year as compared to 25 in 1930.

In each year one of the victims was white, the lynching of the white man in 1931 taking place in North Dakota. Lynchings of Negroes occurred in nine states. Following Mississippi came West Virginia and Florida with two, and Alabama, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, Texas and Tennessee with one each.

Spent $83,933

Declaring that the association expended $83,933 during 1931 and its officers traveled 75,551 miles to carry out its work, the report stated that mass political action has shown the race to be increasingly emancipated from traditional party allegiance.

"In law," the report continued, "more calls than ever came to the association for aid during the year and the record of eight Negroes either freed entirely or with executions reversed or delayed among those originally sentenced to death is evidence of the effective nature of this work. Segregation, discrimination, aid to the Republic of Haiti all enlisted the activity of the association deployed on the wide front of the battle for human rights."

"Honor-Slaying"—"Honor-Killing"

By WILLIAM PICKENS
(for ANP)

Afro-American 5/7/32

Whoever heard of an "honor murder"? Lawyers can invent anything.

Some American whites in Hawaii concocted the most deliberate, painstaking and cold-blooded scheme imaginable to abduct and kill a native "colored" man, who had been accused, tried and not yet convicted of an attack on a white woman. It may be that the man was guilty, but now, by the very act of these lynchers, he died legally "innocent."

I say he MAY have been guilty, for we all know that since the Americans, especially the soldier type, have been mastering Hawaii for several generations, they have taught the Hawaiians by example how to commit rape, and now they are teaching them how to lynch.

If some native people had deliberately passed themselves off as officers and abducted and killed some one of the marines who had assaulted a native woman, what a hue and cry there would be for their punishment.

They would have several different charges against them, so that no one could escape, and so that, if they were not convicted on the major charge, they could still be held and convicted on a minor one, and so that, if the chief killer confessed and were convicted, the others could still be punished as accessories or on the charge of abduction, of conspiracy to murder, of posing as officers, and the charge of MURDER—not an "honor" killing.

If natives had abducted and killed a marine in one of their shacks, and just because they had not been able to convince the court that the white man had harmed them, the little old word "honor" would never have been linked to the dastardly deed by any newspaper in America. A whole jail-full of natives would be in custody.

I have no word to say here about the young woman who got "assaulted" under rather queer circumstances. I am sorry for her. But I am interested in this making of a joke out of law and legal procedure; this shamming and bluffing and faking in the name of judicial dignity; this screaming farce of a trial.

Listen at the idiotic terminolgy when the strong are on trial for the murder of the weak: "mentally deranged—alarm clock insanity—psychiatry—delirium with ambulatory autonomism—unbalanced—insane—monkey glands — endocrine glands — mental tension — mental bombs—shock and amnesia"—and all the other bought perjury from expert liars.

Now if this white man had killed this colored man in civilized South Carolina or moral Mississippi, on a rape charge or any other charge intimately or remotely connected with a "white woman," he would not have to argue insanity of any kind. He would not "confess"; he could boast and brag. But in Hawaii, where people are supposed to be uncivilized and where the "hula" girls live, it seems different—to Hawaii's credit.

Never before did we get a vivid exhibition of how far ahead of us in civilization these Hawaiians really are, until we saw the spectacle of these lynchers actually being put on trial and so hard-pressed that they are forced to declare themselves to be non compos mentis and hire a whole parade of scientific liars in order to avoid punishment. Whether they are convicted or cleared, there will not be many more lynchings in Hawaii in the next twenty-five years.

LYNCHING MOBS REPUDIATED BY WOMEN OF MISS

American 5-14-32

Hundreds Pledge Effort to End Mob Violence:

JACKSON, Miss.— More than a thousand Mississippi women in 464 different towns and cities have gone on record in a united protest against lynching and have signed a pledge to do everything possible to end mob violence through the press, the pulpit, the schools, and the influence of the home.

Additional signers are being enrolled constantly through the efforts of the Asociation of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching. The Mississippi branch of the Association is headed by Mrs. L. W. Alford of McComb who is giving much time to the promotion of the movement throughout the state visiting all the important meetings of women and laying before them the program of the Association.

The Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching was organized in October 1930, at a meeting of Southern women called by the Commission on Interracial Cooperation through Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames the director of the Commission's department of womans' work. It now has strong branches in all the Southern states and has enrolled several thousand outstanding women. These women not only carry on an educational campaign against lynching, but individually and collectively watch for dangerous situatons, seek to avert threatened trouble, commend and support officers who resist mobs, and demand vigorous court action in cases of mob violence. Following is the statement of conviction and purpose which these thousands of women in Mississippi and the other states have personally signed:

"We, the undersigned, believe that the crime of lynching undermines all ideals of government and religion which we hold sacred and which we try by our lives and our conduct to implant into the minds of our youth. We recognize that [illegible] lynching will be defended so long as the public generally accepts the assumption that it is [illegible] the protection of white women. We hold that we owe it not only to our times, but to posterity to repudiate the acts of mobs and lynchers and to declare that if the Constitution our laws, our courts cannot protect women, then our civilization is a travesty and our religion is a mockery.

"We pledge ourselves to arouse public opinion to the menace of the crime of lynching by educating the youth of our own communities to an understanding of the consequences of such lawless acts, and by calling upon press, pulpit, schools, and every patriotic citizen to join us in a campaign against such violations of law and

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Honolulu and Scottsboro Contrasted

Afro-American

The Hawaiian Islands Not the Racial Paradise We Had Supposed them to be Anglo-Saxon Color Prejudice Leaps Oceans.

5-14-32

By KELLY MILLER

Honolulu, Hawaii, and Scottsboro Alabama.

These two cities are now on the spot. There are striking resemblances and equally striking contrasts between the horrible happenings which have recently centered about them. In both instances non-white males have been accused of assault on white women. Both sets of culprits have been brought before courts of justice—in the one case before a racially mixed jury, and in the other before a jury of white men. In case of the Hawaiians, the jury disagreed. In case of the Alabama Negroes the death penalty was imposed.

Kelly Miller

The Hawaiian verdict aroused the ire of the Anglo-Saxon contingent of the Islands. The Scottsboro outcome pleased the local whites but aroused the sense of outraged justice of the outside world. One of the Hawaiian culprits was snatched from the hands of the law and lynched by friends and relatives of the outraged woman. A mixed jury brought a verdict of homicide against the lynchers. The Scottsboro boys have remained secure in jail pending further legal procedure in their behalf. The world does not believe that they have received a fair, constitutional trial.

THE HONOLULU VERDICT CAUSED CONSTERNATION

In Honolulu the verdict of guilty against the lynchers again stirred the race spirit of the Anglo-Saxons of the Island, although seven Anglo-Saxons on the jury concurred in the verdict. The announcement in America was received with great consternation and excitement. The press all but unanimously condemned the verdict and condoned the act of lynching. The sane and sedate United States Senate allowed itself to be carried away on a wave of racial feeling and to enact precipitately an ex-post facto law which is plainly contrary to the Constitution.

The inflamed feeling of the Anglo-Saxon race aroused by such assaults sweeps them beyond the restraints of law or the bounds of reason. In any other civilized country of the globe, the law would be allowed to take its unhindered course. In both communities the heated passion of race will not allow the operation of due process of law. At Scottsboro, the raging public opinion made impossible a fair and impartial trial. The same thing is charged in Honolulu.

PUBLIC OPINION NOT ONE-SIDED IN HAWAII

But there is a world of difference between the two cases. The public opinion of Scottsboro is all on one side of the racial line. Whatever the Negro may think or feel has no weight with either court or jury. But in the Hawaiian Islands, the public opinion is composite, involving the constituent feelings and attitudes of the various racial elements of the population.

We have hitherto been in the habit of looking upon the Hawaiian Islands as being the ideal laboratory of race relation. Here Caucasian, Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, Hawaiian, and the varied cross progenies lived, we are told, in peace harmony, and good will, without racial bitterness or prejudice.

I recall hearing the late Charles Cottrell, collector of customs for Honolulu, recite the instance of a cosmopolitan banquet where representatives of the varied racial groups sat about the festive board. A member of Congress from Alabama was the guest of honor and delivered the chief address. This orthodox Southerner congratulated the Islands on the racial friendship and amity that everywhere prevailed.

COTTRELL REFUTED UNINFORMED SOUTHERNER

But the Southerner added that all of this was due to the absence of the Negro, claiming that a single representative of that race would pollute and poison the whole equation. Whereupon Mr. Cottrell arose and put himself in evidence as a refutation of the Southerner's theory.

But be that as it may have been, today we are rudely awakened from our dream of a racial paradise in the Pacific. The same fury and rage are aroused at any violent attempt to cross the color line there, as in Alabama.

No man who has respect for his own intellectual and moral integrity would care to risk his reputation by asserting that the Honolulu verdict, arrived at by a mixed jury, is not in harmony with the facts and the law. It was not the outcome of the case itself, but its gruesome background that aroused the evil spirit of race.

I think that few honest men would dare say that the Scottsboro verdict was in harmony with the facts and the law, but was dictated by an irrefragable racial policy and wrung from court and jury by a threatening public opinion. A mixed jury in Honolulu was more obedient to the obligation of its oath than the one-race jury at Scottsboro.

ONE-RACE JURIES GIVE BIASED JUDGMENTS

Negroes are excluded from all juries in the South. At the same time, there are more frequent and flagrant miscarriages of justice in the South than in any other part of the civilized world. In a mixed community, where the racial factor and feeling enter, a one-race jury is not calculated to do justice. No Negro has a fair trial by a jury of his peers, when his own racial variety is excluded from the jury box.

THE HONOLULU CASE VINDICATES MIXED JURIES

That seven white men agreed with five non-white men in the Honolulu verdict proves conclusively that a mixed jury need not frustrate or vitiate justice.

The motto of Abraham Lincoln is true when amended: "No race is good enough to govern or judge another race without its consent and participation in the government and judgement."

NO LYNCHING IN 1933

Philadelphia Pa

Philadelphia Tribune

12-1-32

A LYNCHLESS South in 1933 is the goal of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching. More than 7,000 **white** Southern women have joined the association within two years and have pledged themselves to eradicate mob violence. The South moves forward with women taking the lead as usual.

These women fighting to abolish America's shame were encouraged by the reports that only six lynchings have occurred in the United States during 1932, and two of these were not in the South, the lowest number for a similar period in fifty years; that Mississippi has not had a lynching in more than a year.

Since mobs say that it is necessary to lynch Negroes in order to protect Southern white women, it is excedingly hopeful that 1933 will be a lynchless year when these same women reply with an organization to abolish lynching. They say, "we do not need that kind of protection." More than that, "we condemn mob violence with all of the forces at our command."

Further these women know that in many instances they have simply been used as an excuse for the unleashing of the howling mob. The statistics show that the majority of lynchings grew out of things other than attacks on white women by Negro men. Now that Southern white women have knocked the prop from under the lynching cause, this type of crime should rapidly disappear, and the South can take its place with other civilized sections of America.

Lynchings-1932

Negro Press, Southern.

3646

Discussions

Report on Lynching

By THE SOUTHERN COMMISSION ON THE STUDY OF LYNCHING

TWO of the twenty-one persons lynched in 1930 were certainly innocent and eleven others possibly so, according to the Report of the Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching to the Commission on Interracial Co-operation. The following statements summarize the findings:

1. There is a real doubt of the guilt of at least half the victims of mob violence.

2. Less than one-fourth of persons lynched since 1890 have been accused of assaults upon white women.

3. Claim that lynchings are necessary because courts do not convict Negroes for their crimes is found to be fallacious.

4. Mob leaders can be identified without difficulty, although grand jury indictments are seldom brought.

5. The rate of lynchings per ten thousand of Negro population is highest in sparsely settled areas.

6. There is a direct relationship between lack of education, low economic status, and lynching danger.

The work occupied a year with research being done by trained investigators. Associated with Mr. George Fort Milton, president and editor of the Chattanooga *News,* as members of the Commission are Julian Harris. News Director of the Atlanta *Constitution;* Dr. W. J. McGlothlin, President of Furman University and of the Southern Baptist Convention; Dr. W. P. King, Book Editor of the M. E. Church, South; Dr. John Hope, President of Atlanta University; Dr. Benjamin F. Hubert, President of Georgia State College; Dr. Charles S. Johnson, Department of Social Science, Fisk University; Dr. R. R. Moton, Principal of Tuskegee Institute; Dr. Howard W. Odum, of the University of North Carolina; Alex Spence, attorney, of Dallas, Tex.; and Dr. Monroe Work, of Tuskegee Institute. Dr. W. C. Jackson, Vice-President of North Carolina College for Women and Chairman of the Commission on Interracial Co-operation, and Dr. Will W. Alexander, Executive Director of that Commission, are *ex-officio* members.

Epworth High Road

IN regard to the offenses for which lynchings occurred in 1930, the Commission's statement says: "One man was lynched solely because he had offended political opponents, and another to prevent his appearance as a witness in a serious court case against white men. In five of the other eleven cases, it was not clear that the mobs got the guilty persons, and in the other six there was doubt as to the truth of the charges against the men lynched." In some cases the Commission found reason to suspect that the victims had been deliberately "framed" for purposes of concealment or revenge.

July / 32

"The popular opinion that most lynchings are for the punishment of crimes against women is wide of the fact," the Commission's statement declared, "for of 3,693 persons lynched during the forty-one years ending with 1929 only twenty-three per cent were accused of actual or attempted crimes against women, while 77 per cent were lynched for other offenses." Those who apologize for lynching as a necessary defense of womanhood, the Commission maintained, "in reality doubly betray the Southern woman, first in making her danger greater by exaggerating her helplessness, and second by undermining the authority of police and courts, which are her legitimate protectors."

The claim that courts do not convict, often advanced as another excuse for lynching, was equally fallacious, the Commission said; for its investigations showed that, in eighteen months, ending July 1, 1931, sixty-eight Negroes were executed by law in the Southern States and 470 were given life sentences. Eight of the executions were for rape, fifty-seven for murder, and three for other crimes.

In several instances in which serious crimes led to lynching attempts, the Commission found evidence that "the culprits were defective half-wits whom society, for its own protection, should long since have apprehended and confined." The report pointed out, however, that practically no public provision has been made for such protection and termed this state of affairs an inexcusable neglect for which the public pays the penalty in crime and insecurity.

Report on Lynching

[*Continued from page 20*]

THE Commission found also a probable connection between illiteracy and crime, instancing the facts that not one of the twenty-one mob victims of 1930 had as much as a high school education, only one had gone beyond the fifth grade, and seven were totally or practically illiterate. This, according to the Commission, suggests the fundamental value of better educational facilities in increasing the level of public security.

As a result of careful investigations on the ground, the Commission asserted that, in most lynching cases, if observers had the will and courage to do it, there would be no difficulty in identifying mob leaders and members. Generally the mob members made little or no effort to conceal their identity; yet officers and others present in their midst usually testified that they recognized none of them. This attitude, the report declared, could be attributed only to "connivance or stupidity." This type of local sympathy or intimidation, the Commission continued, was largely responsible for the fact that indictments were returned in only six lynching cases in 1930, and that so far only four of the forty-nine men indicted have been convicted.

Most of those whom the Commission's investigators identified as probably participants in mobs were poorly educated, propertyless, and irresponsible, often unemployed, and sometimes with court records. However, a number of those identified as mob members were found to be members of the churches, while a very few had some prominence in the community.

Eleven of the 1930 lynchings, it was found, took place in counties which had had none in thirty years. This fact the Commission interpreted as indicating that no community is immune from mob violence and that good citizens everywhere should be constantly on watch for threatening situations.

The Commission cited illustrations of what is termed "legal lynchings" — hasty trials and foredoomed convictions under mob pressure so great as to preclude all possibility of deliberate and impartial judicial procedure. In some cases officials had actually bargained with mobs, and had "bought off" the leaders with promises of speedy conviction and execution, promises sometimes carried out to the bitter end, even in the face of reasonable doubt of the guilt of the accused.

Against this dark picture, however, the Commission pointed out certain encouraging high lights. One is in the fact that lynchings have steadily decreased from the high tide of 255 in 1892 to the low mark of 10 in 1929, and to an average of 17 per year for the past six years.

DECREASE IN LYNCHING

It is well to make note and do so in an appreciative way too, of the decreasing number of lynching in this country. Years ago it was a pleasing pastime for a certain class of men; but under the educative regime of a determined set of men and women, this popularity is gratefully vaining. From the Tuskegee report recently received, five persons were lynched during the first six months of this year. Three of these victims were colored. Only one of them was accused of the crime of rape. Three of the offenses took place in the South. The report also stressed the fact that officers of the law prevented lynching in thirteen cases; eleven of them being in the South. The time is anxiously awaited for this to be a lynchless country.

SOUTHERN WOMEN AGAINST LYNCHING

Informer

The Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynchings, consists of white women of the South, who believe that the leaders of the South should actively oppose lynching until it is abolished. They have been organized less than two years, but they have made their weight felt in every Southern State.

These women are honest in their thinking on this question. Their first act was to repudiate the idea that lynchings were necessary and justifiable as protection of the womanhood of white women of the South. Having pulled that camouflage down, they went to the heart of the difficulty in eliminating lynching in the South and declared:

> "We would call attention to the fact that lynching is not alone the crime of ignorant and irresponsible mobs, but that every citizen who condones it, even by his silence, must accept a share of its guilt."

7-16-32

They are Christian in the truest sense. Negroes can believe that Christ would be glad to acknowledge them as his diciples. As long as the churches, government officials, and social agencies of the South form a conspiracy of silence in which lynchers hide, Negroes will distrust them. On the other hand, Negroes will instinctively recognize a friend in an association as honest and sincere as the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching.

DIXIE WHITE GIRL UNMOVED BY HANGING: U. S. LYNCH ORDEALS ARE RECALLED

Courier 9-24-32
Pittsburgh, Pa.

ATLANTA, Ga., Sept. 22—(ANP)—Indication that the experience of witnessing ghastly lynching spectacles, which is one of theprivileges of white boys and girls in the South, is effective training in the hardening of their feelings so that they can withstand bloody exhibitions in later life, is contained in a story published in the Atlanta Constitution telling of how a former Atlanta white girl witnessed the execution of Paul Gorgouloff, slayer of President Paul Doumer of France without a tremor.

The girl is Mary Knight. In a copyrighted story for the United Press she writes in part:

"I stood beside the guillotine outside Sante Prison at dawn Wednesday, the first woman to witness an execution in France from the enclosure reserved for officials and journalists, and watched as Dr. Paul Gorgouloff's head was chopped off for the murder of President Doumer.

"The spectacle was not too terrifying to me personally, but it was a ghastly scene.

"I dressed in boy's clothes, then remained in a hiding place near the guillotine until midnight. I was more frightened during the time I had to wait than by the actual execution.

ARKANSAS NOW TAKES LEAD IN LYNCH LEAGUE

Afro-American
7-24-32
Baltimore

CHICAGO—(ANP)—Unconfirmed reports from Crossett, Ark., state that Frank Tucker, 24 years old, was taken from the city jail and hanged to a light pole in the center of the business district Thursday, after he is alleged to have slashed the throat of a deputy sheriff, Henry Reed. Tucker was awaiting a hearing on a larceny charge.

This marks the eighth lynching for the year and the second for Arkansas. The other Arkansas lynching was that of Willie [illegible] who was slain by a mob near Lucerne, May 25.

The other lynchings for this year so [illegible]:

OPELIKA, Ala.—Charles Miller was slain by a posse which cornered him in a corn field three miles from Opelika and poured 150 shots into his body, June 20.

IRONTON, Ohio—Luke Murray, a chauffeur, was taken from the jail at South Point by a mob of [illegible] men, June 7. His body was found later in the Ohio River.

JASPER, Fla.—[illegible] Woods was shot by a posse near Jasper and his body burned at the scene of an alleged crime, June 7.

CROCKETT, Texas—Dave Tillis, 50-year-old farmer, was seized by four men and hanged for allegedly entering a white woman's bedroom.

PRINCETON, Ky.—Walter Merrick, alleged white dynamiter, was taken from jail and hanged to a huckelberry tree, June 1.

ST. FRANCIS, Kans.—Richard Read, white, alleged rapist, was hanged by a mob at Atwood, Kans., after being taken from the Cheyenne County jail.

STANDINGS IN THE LYNCHING LEAGUE (1932)

ARKANSAS	2
FLORIDA	1
TEXAS	1
KENTUCKY	1
ALABAMA	1
OHIO	1
KANSAS	1
GEORGIA	0
TENNESSEE	0
MISSISSIPPI	0
LOUISIANA	0
OKLAHOMA	0
MISSOURI	0
VIRGINIA	0
NORTH CAROLINA	0
SOUTH CAROLINA	0
INDIANA	0
MARYLAND	0
Total	8

Virginians Insist Ghoulish Burning of Suspect No Lynching

East Tennessee News
10-13-32
Knoxville, Tenn.

LINDEN, Va. — (CNS) — The burning of the body of Shadrack Thompson, which was found hanging to the limb of an apple tree and burned, after it had been outrageously mutilated by a mob of local farmers, was not a lynching, according to the verdict of the Fauquier special grand jury which reported that it could not discover any evidence as to who burned the body, discovered on September 15.

Stories to the effect that the man accused of attacking a white farmer and his wife in July, had been hanged by a posse gained so much credence that the case was laid before the grand jury which held that the suspect had committed suicide and that it was unable to affix blame for the burning of his body, although hundreds of local citizens admitted freely taking part in the ghastly midnight scene on Rattlesnake mountain, and some admitted after the finding of the body, that they had taken part in Thompson's lynching two months before.

There were about 200 members of the mob which burned Thompson's body, witnesses at the investigation reported. According to the testimony of Physician-Coroner Davis, the man committed suicide, and he points to the fact that the man's hands were not tied to establish this contention. Although first stories claim that the body was completely charred when the officials finally arrived, Dr. Davis claims that he was among the first on the scene.

"I got there ahead of the crowd," the coroner said, "and there was plenty of time to make a complete examination. I naturally wondered if he had really killed himself, and made the examination with this idea in mind. There is not the slightest doubt in my mind but that he did hang himself.

"The cord he used was one that had been in his possession when he fled," Dr. Davis said. "It was a piece of rope which no one except a suicide would have thought of using. The man climbed upon one limb and attached the rope to another immediately above the one on which he was sitting, tied

(more on page eight.)

11th 1932 Lynching Is Credited To Louisiana

Journal and Guide
Norfolk Va

CHICAGO —(ANP)— Louisiana got her name on the dishonored roll of lynching states Sunday, November 20, when a mob of fifteen men took William House from a marshal, shot him twice and hanged him to a tree. His body was found Monday, November 21.

12-24-32

House was accused of "talking back" to two white women.

This marked the eleventh lynching for this year.

Just one day prior to the murder of House, the Association of Southern (White) Women for the Prevention of Lynching had set as a goal, "a lynchless South for 1933."

The standings in the "Lynching League for 1932 are as follows:

Arkansas	2
Alabama	1
Florida	1
Kentucky	1
Kansas	1
Ohio	1
Virginia	1
Texas	1
North Carolina	1
South Carolina	1
Louisiana	1
Total	11

Two of the above lynchings, in Kentucky and in Kansas, were of white men.

Lynchings-1932
6

Negro Press, (Southern.)
6

3647

Discussions.

NOT IN DEFENSE OF WOMANHOOD

Christian Recorder

SOUTH'S BLUEST BLOOD TAKES STAND FOR LAW AND ORDER

1-7-32

Down in Atlanta, Georgia, a Convention made up of the South's bluest blood, consisting of mothers wives and daughters of the men of the Southland, the pure Anglo Saxon strain and descendants who mingle in there from Foreign Countries, decided that mob violence was a menace to public safety, that lynching was inhuman, outrageous and barbarous, that it was traducing and seducing the rights of the American citizens and the Constitution of the Country. In describing the meeting the Atlanta Constitution, published down in the Georgia capital, contained the following write-up in its news column and reproduced a picture of the delegation that came from many of the southern states. The Constitution's article said:

The Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching, organized in this city year ago, held its first annual meeting here Saturday, reaffirmed its conviction "that lynching is not a defense of womanhood, but rather a menace to private and public safety," and formed definite plans to continue an intensify its campaign against mob violence.

Twenty official representatives from 11 southern states were present, all of them prominent in religious and civic organizations. Interested visitors and invited guests brought the attendance to more than twice that number. The meetings were held at the Piedmont hotel, opening Friday night and concluding 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon. The presiding officer , was Mrs. Charles Maddry, of Raleigh, N. C.

Letters were read from Governor Richard B. Russell, Jr., of Georgia, and Governor I. C. Blackwood of South Carolina, extending greetings to the organization and good wishes for the success of its work.

Letter from Russell

Governor Russell's letter, addressed to the Southern Association of Women for the Prevention of Lynching, was as follows:

"I wish to extend to you greetings and best wishes in your meeting. As chief executive of Georgia I am heartily in favor of all efforts directed toward upholding the laws of the state and nation.

"The express purpose of your organization is to prevent lynchings. I am sure that your efforts have the best wishes of all law-abiding citizens of our state. Every effort to punish crime, other than by the agencies established by law for this purpose, strikes at the fundamentals of this government and cannot be too strongly condemned.

"Cordially yours,
"RICHARD B. RUSSELL, JR."

Blackwood Extends Greetings.

Governor I. C. Blackwood's letter was addressed to Mrs. George E. Davis, one of the South Carolina delegates, and contained the following words: "I wish to commend you and will be glad to co-operate with you at any time in your good work. I had in mind to attend the conference in Atlanta on November 20 and 21, but find that I have a previous engagement that will prevent. I wish for you, however, a very successful meeting."

Resolution Adopted

After an extended discussion of the conditions and attitudes contributing to mob violence and the means for their improvement, the group adopted the following statement of its convictions and purposes:

"We, the central council for the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching, representing 13 southern states, are profoundly convinced that lynching is not a defense of womanhood, but rather a menace to private and public safety, and a deadly blow at our most sacred institutions. Instead of deterring irresponsible and criminal classes from further crime, as it is argued, lynching tends inevitably to destroy all respect for law and order. It brutalizes the community where it occurs, including the women and children who frequently witness its orgies, and particularly the youth who are usually conspicuous participants. In its indiscriminate haste for revenge, the mob sometimes takes the lives of innocent persons, and often inflicts death for minor offenses. It brings contempt upon America as the only country where such crimes occur, discredits our civilization, and discounts the Christian religion around the globe.

"We would call attention to the fact that lynching is not alone the crime of ignorant and irresponsible mobs, but that every citizen who condones it, even by his silence, must accept a share of its guilt.

"We therefore call upon our governors and other public officials, as well as upon the mothers, the teachers, the press and all other public opinion-forming agencies, to use every power at their disposal to protect from mob anarchy the laws of our country; upon our religious leaders to cry aloud against this crime till it ceases to exist; upon parents and teachers to train up a generation incapable of such relapses into barbarism; and upon all right-thinking men and women to do their utmost in every way for the eradication of this crime."

Organization Strengthened

Plans were formulated to strengthen the organization throughout the south to the point where, if possible, every county shall be represented A definite program was adopted, including investigation, educational effort, and vigorous protest where other means fail. The official representatives present, as members of the central council, were as follows Mrs. J. R. Cain, Columbia, S. C. Mrs. J. W. Mills, Beaumont, Texas; Mrs. W. A. Newell, Greensboro, N. C.; Miss Jane McGaughey, Mrs. M. E. Tilly and Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames, Atlanta; Mrs. Ivy C. Johnson, Leesburg, Fla.; Mrs. W. A. Turner, Newnan, Ga.; Miss Alma Schmitt, Louisville, Ky.; Mrs. R. S. Crichlow and Mrs. R. W. Irvine, New Orleans; Mrs. W. C. Winnsboro, Shreveport; Mrs. L. W. Alford, McComb, Miss.; Mrs. Charles E. Maddry, Raleigh, N. C.; Mrs. Margaret Yost, Norman, Okla; Mrs. George Davis, Orangeburg, S. C. Mrs. R. L. Harris, Knoxville; Miss Estelle Haskin, Nashville; Mrs. J. L. Brock, Bryan, Texas, and Mrs Henry E. Eley, Suffolk, Va.

The officers of the association are Mrs. Attwood Martin, of Louisville chairman; Mrs. W. A. Newell, of Greensboro, secretary-treasurer, and Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames, of Atlanta

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FEAR IS CAUSE OF LYNCHINGS IN THE SOUTH

Informer
1-9-32
Houston, Texas

New York City.—(CNS)—That fear is the predominant element responsible for the large numbers of lynchings of Negroes in the South, is the conclusion drawn by Prof. Howard W. Odum, member of the Southern Commission on Lynching and professor at the University of North Carolina, in a recent article on the subject in the Nation.

Dr. Odum wrote: "First we come to the elemental factor of fear with its many ramifications. It is not primarily that the South is traditionally afraid of Negro domination. It might seem logical to assign this as an important factor in those regions where the Negro predominates numerically and where conceivably he might become master of voting control. But these regions are not only one where lynchings occur or where the most barbaric anti-social conduct is found. What, therefore, are the other phases of the fear-force which condition the region for this particular sort of anti-social behavior? It seems apparent that the general fear which lies at the basis of lynching phenomenon involves many other features. The Negro is troublesome to our peace of mind, though we do not quite know how or why. He is making a great deal of progress in many different ways. He may become a different sort of person from what we now think he ought to be. He may become an intimate part of our civilization and culture. He may really be our equal. We may really be wrong in our estimate of him. We fear what will happen in the future. He has to be kept in his place. We are not really afraid of the Negro himself. We are afraid of the prospect. Our thought of it is beyond the control of anything except our emotional conditioning. What are we going to do about it? We are uneasy. But we let things drift along, and when something happens, the easiest way is the way of violence and emotional debauch. And we struggle with fear and misgivings and rage that we should get into such a fix. And the Negro must pay.

"And then we are afraid of what we have done. Our conscience is the conscience of a religious people. It is written that we must protect our women and our race. It is written that the Negro is a hewer of wood and a drawer of water. Written or not written, we have done right and will stand by it and see that the sacred whiteness of our race shall not be violated. We are dangerous to those who oppose us. We are hostile to those who reason. We are afraid, and it makes us mad."

Anti-Lynching Assn.

GREENSBORO, N. C.—(CNS)—The North Carolina Association for the Prevention of Lynching held its second annual Conference here recently. The association, composed largely of white persons, plans a state-wide educational program for educating North Carolinians in law observance. Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames of Atlanta, Georgia, executive director of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching, was one of the guest speakers.

Lynchings Most Likely Occur In Places On Brink Hunger and Heartbreak

Tribune

2-26-32

Says George Fort Milton, a Noted Southern Editor and Writer in Speech Last Week

Athens, Ga., Feb. 19—George Fort Milton, editor of Chattanooga News and prominent southern writer, in his speech before the Press Institute, Friday, said that evidence had been found indicating a "greater likelihood of lynchings in communities living upon the fringe of hunger and of heartbreak."

He discussed reports of lynching investigators who pictured drab conditions existing in several Georgia communities in which lynchings have occurred in recent years. Investigators of the southern commission on the study of lynching, he said, illustrated the point in reports on several Georgia lynchings.

Savannah Ga

"A Negro named George Grant was shot to death in a cell in the county jail at Darien, September 8, 1930," he said. The editor said that for a series of years, Darien had declined as a port, as a rice growing center and in many other ways the county's economic structure had been progressively breaking down.

"James Irwin paid the final price of mob law at Ocilla, on January 31, 1930" he continued, adding that bank deposits in Irwin county in 1929 were "but $33.45 per inhabitant, compared with $155.89 for Georgia as a whole." In that year Mr. Milton added, only seven income tax returns were made in the entire county.

"Aside from its winter resort qualities, the economic backwardness of Thomasville, the scene of the lynching of Willie Kirkland was equally obvious. The agricultural methods of the county were almost primitive. 'Rural dwellers made a living, this particular case study related, 'for the most part by tilling the soil with one horse plows, briar hooks and long handle hoes."

Ancient Farm Methods

Mr. Milton said the report said agricultural methods of "half a century ago" were followed and that "in many respects these rural dwellers have made but little advance since 1880. They produce but little more now than then. They live in poor houses, many of them mere hulls which do not stand upright. They send their children to a one-teacher school now and then.' he further quoted the report.

Tribune 2-25-32

Discussing the death by violence in July 1930, of "S. S. Mincey, a Negro politician of considerable standing in his state," who was slain at his home near Ailey, in Montgomery county, Mr. Milton said:

"Mincey had irritated some local political applicants by his unwillingness to indorse them for appointment. There was some question as to whether death by violence was lynching or murder, but this does not interfere with the economic analysis.

"Montgomery county is a farming county, with only a small scattering of automobile mechanics, filling station attendants and professional men. The county is extremely poor. Its per capita production in 1924 was only $130.92, compared with the Georgia state average of $310.78. Its tax valuation per inhabitant was only about half of the state as a whole."

Commission investigators, he said gave the following picture of its population.

Klan Has Failed

"The poor whites of Montgomery and surrounding counties are poor indeed. The klan which they accepted as a way out has failed them; cotton is cheap; there is no prosperous city to run off to at will. They are emaciated looking and they with their wives and children grow old while young.

"Mothers with sunken chests and practically no teeth, little babies in arms with scabs on their heads and running sores about their ears, boys chewing tobacco before they are half grown and girls staring and popping their gum, and men, women and children with dirty clothes and unkempt persons seething fatalism and pessimism are to be seen on every hand.

"Now and then an intoxicated fellow breaks the monotony, only to add to the sordidness of the picture. One Saturday afternoon at a little town between Ailey and Ocilla, a snaggled-toothed white mother carrying a 6 months old baby with a stick of candy in its mouth, stumbled over a half-grown pig just out of a street wallow midway between the bank and the postoffice. There is much of frontier in this part of Georgia with the virility of the frontier lacking.

Ignorant Emotionals

"Not all of the communities which were the scenes of lynching represent such intellectual, social and economic poverty as was found in those just described," said Mr Milton. "But, in almost every instance studied, investigators called attention to the existence of a large group of ignorant emotionally directed, one might say almost criminally-minded people, eager to burn and hang."

The editor said solution of the lynching problem calls for quickening of the machinery of the law to prevent threatened lynchings and when they are not prevented, to bring "due penalty upon their perpetrators." He said the more important phase of the problem is to reorganize the social viewpoint of the south. "This," he added "involves substituting satisfaction and contentment for hunger and heartbreak in such places as Ocilla, Ailey and Darien. It involves the reeducation of our people."

EYE-WITNESS TELLS OF SALISBURY LYNCHING

Says Everyone Knows Who Led the Mob

Tribune 3-10-32

New York, Mar. 7 (CNA)—Brutalities overshadowing in horror all the facts previously known about the lynching of Matthew Williams in Salisbury, Md., on December 6, are described in a letter from an eye witness to the lynching, which has come into the hands of the editors of the Crusader News Agency.

That the local official of Salisbury know very well who the leaders of the lynch mob were, is the charge made in this letter. Although almost three months have passed since this brutal murder of a Negro worker, no arrests have occurred, a no move has been made to investigate the lynching, in spite of repeated promises of action by Gov Ritchie and State Attorney Lane.

It will be remembered that Williams was shot and lynched as the result of the request of Daniel J. Elliott, owner of the Salisbury crate and basket factory, for a slight increase in his wages of 15 cents an hour.

The letter of the eye witness to the lynching is printed below in full. The writer is a worker. His name is withheld only because its publication would probably result in another lynching. The letter was written to William Powell, organizer of the Baltimore branch of the League of Struggle for Negro Rights. The letter follows:

Dear Mr. Powell:

The lynching of M. Williams in this town was the most brutal sight human eyes could witness. And it certainly has brought a black gloom over the entire state.

Everyone down here knows just who led the mob that lynched this man, everybody here know who it was that shot him while he was in the hands of the police.

I cannot even write you, or explain to you how horrible the whole thing was.

First they dragged him to the court house square, and hanged him, then they cut him down, tied the rope to the back of an auto, and dragged him to the Negro section of the town. They then got about 40 or 50 gallons of gasoline, but before they threw this gas over him, they cut off his fingers and toes, threw them on the porches and in the yards of the Negro homes, shouting these remarks, "that they (the Negroes) could make "nigger sandwiches out of them." Then they threw the gas over him, set a match to him, and while the human torch burned, they passed booze around, drinking and shouting.

They also warned the Negroes that they would burn their homes down, if they heard as much as a whisper out of them.

They also told the Negroes not to be seen on the town streets after 9 p. m. under penalty of death; even now, weeks after the lynching, the Negroes are not seen on the streets of the town after 9 p. m.

We would like to know if something cannot be done to punish the leaders of this crime.

MRS. NEEL HEADS ANTI-LYNCHING ASSOCIATION

Savannah Tribune

Accepts Chairmanship of the Georgia Division

11-28-32

Atlanta, Nov. 28—Mrs. W. J. Neel of the staff of Bessie Tift College former president of the Woman's Missionary Union of the Georgia Baptist Convention, and one of the best known women in the state, has accepted the chairmanship of the Georgia Association for the Prevention of Lynching.

Savannah Ga

This Association, organized two year ago, now has a membership of more than twelve hundred Georgia women, most of them in positions of leadership in their respective communities and religious groups. Each has signed personally the following statement:

"We declare lynching is an indefensible crime destructive of all principles of government, hateful and hostile to every ideal of religion and humanity, debasing and degrading to every person involved. Public opinion has accepted too easily the claim of lynchers and mobsters that they were acting solely in the defense of womanhood. We repudiate this disgraceful claim for all time. We solemnly pledge ourselves to create a new public opinion in the South which will not condone acts of mobs or lynchers. We shall teach our children at home, at school, and at church a new interpretation of law and religion; we will assist all officials to uphold their oath of office; and finally we will join with every minister, editor, school teacher, and patriotic citizens in a program of education t eradicate lynching and mobs forever from our land."

Lynchings-1932

Negro Press, Southern.

3648

Discussions

Will Congress Approve Lynch Law?

Independent

5-[illegible]-32

Atlanta, Ga.

If either the Crisp or McKellar bill designed to pardon Honolulu lynchers recently convicted for mob violence in Hawaii passes Congress the United States Government cannot escape the odium of endorsing murder and mob law in the eyes of Christian civilization. Congressmen could engage in far more [illegible] business than advertising the nation to the world as savage and dis-organizers of orderly government. hese criminals are no more than any other mob in the states who have lynched thousands of innocent beings in the last forty years. Then why should Congressmen who are sent to Washington waste their time in an effort to place their government in the eyes of the world as promoters of mob violence and the taking of human life without due process of law? What will Judge Crisp and those who follow him base their proposition to pardon these outlaws upon? These lynchers have been indicted, tried and convicted by a jury of their peers in a court of competent jurisdiction; then why should the Legislative branch of our government question the integrity of the Judicial branch of the government? Wlil these deluded Congressmen and Senators set up what they have read in the newspapers against the sworn testimony of the witnesses and broadcast to the world that these violators of the law were denied a fair trial? The Congfiressmen are acting entirely upon heresay evidence. They are presuming that these lynchers were not given a fair and impartial trial. The jury heard the evidence and the law, and returned a verdict in accordance with the evidence as they had the light to see and discover the truth. The burden of proof was on the state and remained there until the jury was satisfied of the guilt of the prisoners at bar.

This uprising in Congress against the constitutional integrity of our courts, is bordering on Communism pure and simple. Communism means the destruction of government by force; and to pardon these Hawaiian lynchers would license mobs to take the law in their hands, kill, murder and plunder as will.

We doubt that Congress has the authority to pardon. The power to pardon is an executive function and any interference with the eduties of the Executive brands by the Legislative branch of the government is an unwarranted encroachment upon the constitutional prerogatives of another coordinate branch of the government. Our government is divided into three branches, Executive, Judicial and Legislative. The constitution prevents these coordinate branches from encroaching upon the rights of one upon the other. They are separate and distinct in their respective fields of operation. Should Congress pass such an idiotic law and the President fail to veto it, we would be looked upon by Christian civilization as a lawless nation upholding the destruction of orderly government by force. But the greatest danger would be in the interpretation that many of the people would place upon Congress action; maany of the people would regard such legislation as suicidal and destructive of goo dgovernment; and as the hysteria of designing politicians who were willing to sacrifice the peace of the world to promote their own selfish ends. Why start this hysteria in Congress while the nation is facing the greatest crisis and condition of unemployment in the history of the world? How can Congress in good grace turn from relieving humanity of its burdens and suffering to issue a pardon to convicted criminals? But the men promoting this movement are so used to lynch law in their home states they think and take mob violence as a past time. With them mob law is supreme; a white man's sensibility with them is above the law and he has the power to abolish or nullify any law that interferes with his criminal instinct.

This pardon movement springs from the heart of men and women who carry in their minds the spirit of Communism and Bolshevikism. We cannot see how Congressman Crisp's support of this revolutionary movement is going to help him in his race to succeed Senator Harris, deceased. On the other hand we feel that his conduct in this matter will largely measure the depth and breadth of his soul; and furthermore, it measures his fitness for the high position to which he aspires.

The act of Governor Judd in pardoning these lynchers will receive the universal condemnation of all law abiding and liberty loving people throughout the world. The Governor his disgraced himself and placed his country in the position of approving mob law and the taking of human life without due process of law.

THE LYNCHER TRAVELS NORTH

Journal and Guide

Norfolk, Va.

6-18-32

BECAUSE he threatened two white men with a knife, Luke Murray was lynched by a mob at South Point, Ohio, last Tuesday. Had the news dispatch read "South Point, Mississippi," there would have been no occasion for this editorial, that state being rated as the most backward of all the forty-eight. But, instead of Mississippi, this taking of a man's life by mob action occurred in a northern state, Ohio, a supposedly more civilized section of our country.

Not content with having been given a free hand in the South, the lyncher must now travel to new territory. It has been scores of years since Ohio has had a lynching bee. It should be triple that number before the outrage again occurs. With the move of the scene of operations of the mobbist, northern Negroes who migrated there to escape the hatreds of the South must immediately act to protect their interests against a recurrence of such a horror.

Already, the prosecutor, Lee O. Andrews, has announced that he "may" file murder charges against the twelve white men held for lynching the black man. That bit of indecision definitely indicates that there is quite likely to be no warm pressing of the charges against the jailed men. Negroes of Ohio are thus faced with a challenge to protect their rights and lives, and they can ill afford to falter now.

The recourse, plainly, lies in the ballot. Black men vote in Ohio in large numbers. In Ironton, in the same county as South Point, there are 1,500 Negroes; in the state of Ohio there are 190,000 Negroes. If this murder goes unpunished, these black voters should swarm the polls against every public official who could have pushed the prosecution but failed, from the sheriff of South Point to Governor White. If faithless public servants realize that mass voting against them will be the reward of their callous indifference, there will immediately be a change, for the better.

The challenge is thrown full in the teeth of Ohio voters. No other method can gain for them the justice they desire. If the lyncher gets away with this murder in a northern state, with northern Negroes doing nothing to force justice, then there might just as well be another great migration—back to the South from the North. The climate will at least be milder down by the Gulf, all other things being equal.

Honolulu and Scottsboro--A Brilliant Discussion of the Two Famous Cases

Journal and Guide 5-14-32

Kelly Miller Goes To Heart Of Hawaiian Lynching

By KELLY MILLER

Norfolk Va.

THESE two cities are now on the spot. There are striking resemblances and equally striking contrasts between the horrible happenings which have recently centered about them. In both instances, non-white males have been accused of assault on white women. Both sets of culprits have been brought before courts of justice—in one case before a racially mixed jury, and in the other before a jury of white men| In case of the Hawaiians, the jury disagreed. In case of the Alabama Negroes the death penalty was imposed.

The Hawaiian verdict aroused the ire of the Anglo-Saxon contingent of the Islands. The Scottsboro outcome pleased the local whites but aroused the sense of outraged justice of the outside world. One of the Hawaiian culprits was snatched from the hands of the law and lynched by friends and relatives of the outraged woman. A mixed jury brought a verdict of manslaughter against the lynchers. The Scottsboro boys have remained secure in jail pending further legal procedure in their behalf. The world does not believe that they have received a fair, constitutional trial.

Swept By Sentiment

In Honolulu the verdict of guilty against the lynchers again stirred the race spirit of the Anglo-Saxons of the Island, although seven Anglo-Saxons on the jury concurred in the verdict. The announcement was received in America with great excitement and consternation. The press all but unanimously condemned the verdict and condoned the act of lynching. The sane and sedate United States Senate allowed itsel to be carried away on a wave of racial feeling and to enact precipitiously an ex-post facto law which is plainly contrary to the Constitution. The inflamed feeling of the Anglo-Saxon race aroused by such assaults sweeps them beyond the restraints of law or the bounds of reason.

In any other civilized country of the globe, the law would be allowed to take its unhindered course. In both communities the heated passion of race will not allow the operation of due process of law. At Scottsboro the raging public opinion made impossible a fair and impartial trial. The same thing is charged in Honolulu. But there is this world of difference between the two cases. The public opinion of Scottsboro is all on one side of the racial line. Whatever the Negro may think or feel has no weight with either court or jury. But in the Hawaiian Islands the public opinion is composit, involving the constituent feelings and attitudes of the various racial elements of the population.

No Pacific Paradise

We have hitherto been in the habit of looking upon the Hawaiian Islands as being the ideal laboratory of race relations. Here Caucasian Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, Hawaiian, and the varied cross progenics lived, we were told, in peace harmony, and good will, without racial bitterness or prejudice. I recall hearing the late Charles Cottrell, Collector of Customs for Honolulu, recite the instance of a cosmopolitan banquet where representatives of the varied racial groups sat about the festive board. A member of Congress from Alabama was the guest of honor and delivered the chief address. This orthodox Southerner congratulated the Islands on the racial friendship and amity that everywhere prevailed. But added that all of this was due to the absence of the Negro, claiming that a single representative of that race would polute and poison the whole equation.

Whereupon Mr. Cottrell arose and put himself in evidence as a refutation of the Southerner's theory. But be that as it may have been, today we are rudely awakened from our dream of a racial paradise in the Pacific. The same furry and rage was aroused at any violent attempt to cross the color line there as in Alabama.

Where Was Justice?

No man who has respect for his own intellectual and moral integrity would care to risk his reputation by asserting that the Honolulu verdict, arrived at by a mixed jury, is not in harmony with the facts and the law. It was not the outcome of the case itself but its gruesome background that aroused the evil spirit of race. I think that few honest men would dare say that the Scottsboro verdict was in harmony with the facts and the law, but was dictated by an irrefragable racial policy and wrung from court and jury by a threatening public opinion. A mixed jury in Honolulu was more obedient to the obligation of their oath than the one-race jury in the South.

At the same time there are more frequent and flagrant miscarriages of justice in the South than in any other part of the civilized world. In a mixed community, where the racial factor and feeling enter, a one race jury is not calculated to do justice. No Negro has a fair trial by a jury of his peers, when his own racial variety is excluded from the jury box. That seven white men agreed with five-non-white men in the Honolulu verdict proves conclusively that a mixed jury need not frustrate or vitiate justice.

The motto of Abraham Lincoln is true when amended: "No race is good enough to govern or judge another race without its consent and participation in the government and judgment."

FLORIDA, OHIO BRING LYNCHING TOTAL TO FIVE

Journal and Guide

Seven Held For Murder Of Chauffeur In Northern State

6-25-32

IRONTON, O.—(CNS)—Seve white men were charged with murder here Saturday, June 11, as a result of an investigation of the death of Luke Murray, 24 year-old Negro, of Atlanta, Ga., who was spirited away from jail June 7 at South Point, Ohio, where he had ben confined following his arrest for threatening to kill two white men with knife.

Norfolk Va.

Murray's body was found in the Ohio River near South Point on June 11. The body was badly battered and the coroner was unable to determine, due to the decomposed condition of the body, whether the man had been beaten or drowned.

Sheriff E. W. Bennett quotes the accused men as stating that Murray drowned after leaping from a row boat. The coroner, however, is withholding a formal verdict until he has completed a more thorough investigation.

Murray was taken from the South Point jail by a mob of about 25 men. All of these men were questioned and as a result 12 were jailed and held without bond, although they denied knowledge of the kidnaping. Later five were freed and charges of second degree murder were lodged against the other seven.

Too Popular; Killed

PORTSMOUTH, O.—Luke Murray, Georgia, Negro chauffeur who was lynched in South Point, Ohio, on the night of Tuesday, June 7, after being forcibly removed from jail, was done to death because "he was too popular with his white employers."

This report is made by an investigator for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People who was on the scene shortly after the mob murder and talked with leading citizens of the town.

The N. A. A. C. P. investigator reports: "This village is 28 miles from Portsmouth. The nearest colored residents in that section are at Ironton, which is in the same county. I visited the scene of the lynching June 12, made investigation. Met key citizens of that vicinity and got some first hand information. I learned this man was killed just because he was too popular with his employers for some of the whites in that section.

"He would often take his employer, wife and daughter auto-riding, and most times the daughter would go without her mother. And this, I learned, he was warned by some of the whites to discontinue."

Florida Burn

JASPAR, Fla.—(ANP)—Because it was alleged that he had shot and killed Police Chief Ira E. Fowler of this city, Henry Woods was tracked down Tuesday and murdered by a mob of farmers and townsmen who, after they had fired 150 shots into Woods' body, transported it to the scene of the murder and burned it.

Committee Protests Lynching

East Tennessee News

ATLANTA — (CNS)—Branding the recent lynching at Crossett, Arkansas, as "a lapse into barbarism which is an indictment against the entire South," the Commission on Inter-racial Cooperation here has filed a protest with Governor Harvey Parnell of Arkansas in which they demand an immediate investigation of the affair.

9-29-32

The letter, signed by W. H. Alexander, director of the commission, and R. H. King, chairman of the executive committee, charges that the lynching of the 24-year-old colored suspect which took place publicly and in the light of day" should have been avoided.

Knoxville, Tenn.

The youth, Frank Tucker, 24 years old, had been arrested on a charge of trying to steal from a bank teller's window. He did not get the $10 which he is alleged to have attempted to snatch from the bank official.

Tucker was awaiting a hearing in the jail under the guard of Sheriff's Deputy Reed, when he is alleged to have whipped out a razor and demanded that the deputy give up his gun. The deputy claims that Tucker then sprang upon him, cut his throat and ran from the building.

After a short chase by bystanders, Tucker was recaptured and returned to a cell in the jail. A few minutes later he was dragged therefrom by an angry mob which quickly gathered, and hung to the electric light pole in front of the jail in the heart of the city's business district.

It is alleged that the street was at that time crowded with women and children, who remained to see the young Negro hung.

Lynchings - 1932
&
Discussions.

Negro Press, (Southern.)

3649

Clemency For The Norman Mob

Black Dispatch
Oklahoma City, Okla.
12-24-32

As near as we can figure it out, the Oklahoma News and Governor Murray have converted into heroes the members of the university mob who brutally beat a fellow student down at Norman.

Why should a man be praised who beats another and then admits that he committed the cruel, cowardly act? What extraordinary character of heroism is to be found among a group of men who apparently sought executive clemency, and were assured of it, before they snatched the veil from their hooded faces and announced: "These threats have not alarmed us."?

As the matter now stands it appears that in certain quarters, Bill Stephens, the student whipped, is to be condemned because of certain alleged inaccuracies in his statement regarding the actions of the University mob. The confessing students now piously declare that Stephens was allowed to dress himself; that he was not dragged out of the fraternity house, and that he did not properly describe the disguises worn by his terrorizers. These allegations form a part of the "noble statement" referred to in the press by Governor Murray.

The rowdies who compose the D. D. M. C. down at Norman were guilty of kidnapping. They are just as guilty of kidnaping as are the inhuman skunks who kidnaped the Lindbergh baby. True it is that they did not kill Bill Stephens, but what do we know about what they would have done, or the character of animus which would have been expressed, had Bill Stephens had a gun and had proceeded to do what the editor of the Oklahoma News first indicated Bill Stephens should have done? Suppose Bill Stephens had had a gun and shot? What attitude would that angry gang of university ruffians have assumed under such conditions?

Trembling with fear of exposure, because of the unrelenting probe of officials, (backed by a million dollar corporation) these noble upholders of the traditions of the Ku Klux Klan now tell a gullible public and governor they confess in order that "the good name of the University" might be preserved.

The Black Dispatch wants to commend the Daily Oklahoman for its ceaseless and successful battle in uncovering the membership of the D. D. M. C. True it is that another publication scooped them on a good news story, but nothing can tarnish the luster upon the crown of those who go out to fight for ordered government and constitutional forms. In order to get a good news story it appears that the editor of the Oklahoma News has forgotten that just a few days ago he expressed the wish that Bill Stephens had had a gun, and had used it when his abductors arrived. By what character does he convert his last week's candidates for a firing squad into heroes of the college campus?

Just this word and then we are through. On numbers of occasions we have noted in the columns of even the publication which snatched the mask from the face of the D. D. M. C., an inclination to occasionally condone the mob. This, of course, has happened in instances where the victim was black. The lesson to be learned by white people at Norman is that every evil has within itself the seeds of its own destruction. Sometimes we do not think so because the worm is so long turning. Take, for instance, the history and the background of lynching and the mob. First we started lynching Negroes, and only Negroes. It was all right to do this because the victim was black, and, to use the common parlance, "the United States was just one nigger less."

But lynching arouses the brute in men. We revert to the jungle type of the vicious savage every time we hold a Southern picnic and burn a black man. White mothers who have shouted in glee around a thousand flaming black torsos, have later given birth to children whose lawless spirits choke every highway and back alley of America. They are represented in our hi-jackers, our racketeers and our D. D. M. C.'s. The mob spirit today does not confine its victims to race.

Governor Murray may assume that he is acting in the interest of good government by releasing these young lawless students down at Norman, but to our notion a ninety-day sentence in the Norman jail would have had a more sobering effect upon their brute complex. It is also interesting to note the reaction which the Daily Oklahoman had towards the mob when the mob finally turned its viperous fangs towards a newspaper, which we have felt occasionally condones mob action.

Lynchings-1932

Discussions.

White Press, (Northern.)

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JOURNAL
KANSAS CITY, MO.
APR 19 1932

Kansas Lynching Laid to Capital Penalty Absence

Many Officials See That Fact as Contributory Cause of Deed.

By W. G. CLUGSTON
Of the Journal-Post Topeka Bureau.

TOPEKA, April 18.—All Kansas Monday morning was aroused over the hanging of Richard Read, confessed ravisher and slayer of 8-year-old Dorothy Hunter of Selden, Kas.

In Topeka, crowds gathered around newspaper bulletin boards and reports from over the state were that crowds gathered in every town and village to discuss the happenings which gave this state the first lynching since 1920 and the twenty-first lynching in the state's history.

Officials of the state in Topeka were gathering details of the affair to take whatever steps might be necessary. In official circles, as well as in groups of citizens, there was much discussion of the question of whether such a thing might have happened if Kansas had a capital punishment law.

This controversy may be expected to go on for some time, with strong advocates on both sides. Some contend that a capital punishment law might have kept down the feeling that moved the citizens to take matters in their own hands when they realized the state could do nothing more than send the self-confessed fiend to the penitentiary for life. Others went further and contended the realization he would have to pay for his crime with his life if caught might have deterred Read from his horrible outrages.

Recent Bills Vetoed.

Others, opposed to capital punishment were just as emphatic in their declarations that a demented man takes no thought of such things [illegible] records show that when a community becomes aroused by such a crime no thought is given to statutes and legal penalties—that in many states which have capital punishment laws, the excuse for lynchings is that justice is too long delayed by the regular legal process.

The discussion of what might have happened if the state had a capital punishment law came from the fact that the last legislature passed three measures providing for capital punishment, but they were vetoed by Governor Woodring after he had been besieged by anti-capital punishment advocates from all over the state and nation.

There also was discussion here as to what might happen to the sheriff and his deputies from whom the prisoner was taken—as to what happens to a sheriff when he loses a prisoner. State officials said nothing necessarily happens, that if it is shown the sheriff was negligent in performing his duty ouster proceedings may be started against him. This, however, has to be initiated by the attorney general.

Boynton Starts Action.

Attorney General Roland Boynton was in communication with the authorities at the scene of the lynching Monday morning by long distance telephone getting what information he could.

"I cannot say what this office will do until I get the facts," he said.

However, he said he and Will Johns, special investigator from his office, would go immediately to the scene of the crimes to gather information.

While the citizens of western Kansas in the early day had to take the law in their own hands and mete out justice as they saw it, the state has had few lynchings. The gun was more often used than the rope in bringing men to justice. In many of the western counties there were many citizens before there was any city or county government. In such places the citizens always got together and disposed of outlaws and righted wrongs, but they usually did this with guns.

Read Is No. 21.

So far as the unofficial records show there had been only twenty lynchings in the state's history until Read was mobbed early Monday morning.

Albert Evans, ~~Negro~~, who had been identified by a 15-year-old girl as the man who had attacked her and slashed her throat with a razor, was lynched by a mob at Mulberry, Kas., April 19, 1920. Evans, accompanied by a white youth, Benjamin Workman, accosted the girl near Breezy Hill, Kas., authorities said. Shortly after the two men were placed in the Mulberry jail a mob obtained the keys, took Evans to a high point on Main street and hanged him in view of children returning home from school. The sheriff was able to save the white youth. Officers testified at an inquest that Evans had admitted guilt. The Negro later was identified as a former convict who served terms in Texas and Illinois prisons.

In 1916, a mob in Johnson county hanged Bert Dudley at Olathe for slaying an elderly couple.

In 1901 a Negro was burned at the stake at Leavenworth when he was accused of committing a horrible crime. This led to the enactment of a statewide anti-mob law which is believed to have held down lynchings in the state. Under this law, when an individual is attacked by three or more persons acting together, the crowd is held to constitute a mob and the subdivision of government which is supposed to maintain law and order may be held for damages or whatever injuries are inflicted by the mob.

Two Lynched in Two Days.

In 1889, several thousand persons witnessed the hanging of Nat Oliphant, alleged murderer, at Sixth street and Kansas avenue in Topeka.

The day before, Pat Cleary, convicted murderer, was hanged to a bridge in Lincoln, Kas.

Three men were hanged from the same tree on the outskirts of Medicine Lodge in 1883. They had robbed a Medicine Lodge bank.

In the early '80s three Negroes were hanged from a bridge across the Kaw river in Lawrence.

In 1871 a triple lynching occurred near Wellington where Charles Smith, Bill Brooks and Charles Hasbrook, horse thieves, were hanged.

A mob of farmers took charge of the Atchison jail in 1863 and tried five men for a series of crimes. Each was convicted and hanged.

Carl Eden was lynched in 1865. He was an accused murderer.

Editorial of the Day

LYNCHINGS CAN BE STOPPED.

[The Des Moines Register.]

Chicago Tribune
1/8/32

Tuskegee institute has a very obvious interest in the progress of tolerance between the colored and white races, and therefore in the lynching evil. Its research department collects records constantly not only on lynchings but on ramified phases of the whole field of racial antagonism.

The institute now reports that there were 13 persons lynched during the last year, and that 12 of them were Negroes. There is no especial significance in the fact that this was 8 fewer lynchings than occurred in 1930. [illegible] more than had occurred in 1929 or 1928.

But there is something about the Tuskegee report that has real significance in it. And that is that despite the 13 persons actually lynched, the forces of law and order prevented attempts to lynch 88 others. Furthermore, of the 57 instances in which lives were thus saved, 50 of them were in the southern states and 70 of the 88 persons involved were Negroes. This surely demonstrates an inclination toward protection of Negroes under arrest, even in the southern states, which is too often overlooked by northerners and westerners.

But it demonstrates something else that is more important. It shows that mere removal of the prisoner to another jail or augmenting the guards will prevent violence [that was true in 45 of the 57 cases]; and that if necessary lynchings can be prevented by the use of armed forces [as they were used in the other 12 cases].

Lynching remains largely a disgrace of the south. All but one of the 1931 lynchings occurred in the southern states. When the mass of enlightened citizens in those states get it thoroughly into their heads that lynchings are not inevitable, that the enforcers of law could prevent them if they honestly wished to, then the final traces of this scar on an ostensibly civilized nation will disappear—and not until.

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14 LYNCHINGS IN 1931, NEGRO GROUP REPORTS

N.Y. Times

Drop From 25 in Previous Year —More Mass Action by Race in Politics Discerned.

5-12-32

There were fourteen lynchings in 1931, as compared with twenty-five in 1930, but many of last year's were murders of extreme brutality, according to the annual report of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, just published. In each year one of the victims was white, the rest having been Negroes.

The lynching of the white man in 1931 took place in North Dakota. The Negro lynchings occurred in nine States. Alabama had one, Florida two, Louisiana one, Maryland one, Mississippi three, Missouri one, Tennessee one, West Virginia two, and Texas one.

The report said that mass political action of Negroes during the year had shown the race to be increasingly emancipated from traditional party allegiance.

"In law," the report continued, "more calls than ever came to the association for aid during the year, and the record of eight Negroes, either freed entirely or with executions reversed or delayed among those originally sentenced to death, is evidence of the effective nature of this work. Segregation, discrimination, aid to the Republic of Haiti, all enlisted the activity of the association deployed on the wide front of the battle for human rights."

The association expended $83,933 during 1931 and its officers traveled
75,551 miles to carry out its w
"More work has been done,"
the report, "greater sums expe
and greater sums received th
the previous year."

BAPTIST WOMEN FIGHT LYNCHING

Telegraph

Missionary Union of Southern Convention Asks Stronger Prohibition Laws

5-13-32

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., May 12 (AP) — Eradication of lynching, strengthening of the prohibition laws, increased financial contributions and membership campaigns were mapped out Thursday as major program for southern Baptist women in 1932.

Macon Ga.

Speakers before the annual convention here of the Women's Missionary union of the Southern Baptist convention outlined the needs for work along these lines.

A call for Christian women to oppose enemies of prohibition was sounded by Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames of Atlanta, woman's work director of the commission on inter-racial relations. She also called upon them to "rise up and say that lynching is a crime against Christianity."

The Baptist Brotherhood of the South, meeting in advance of the 77th annual Southern Baptist convention Friday heard inspirational addresses. The need for Christians to return to thankfulness for the blessings of the Lord was stressed.

Tithing and increased contributions to church work were advocated in both the W. M. U. and the Brotherhood sessions.

Mrs. W. J. Cox of Memphis, president, and other officers of the Woman's Missionary union of the Southern Baptist convention were re-elected as the organization's meeting here neared a close.

General officers re-elected, in addition to Mrs. Cox, were Miss Kathleen Mallory, corresponding secretary; Miss Juliett Mather, young people's secretary; Mrs. H. M. Wharton, recording secretary; Mrs. Sumter Lea, Jr., assistant recording secretary, all of Birmingham, Ala., and Mrs. W. C. Lowndes of Baltimore, treasurer.

That One Hour Sentence

Memphis
Commercial
Appeal
5/32

Indirectly but none the less strikingly, Clarence Darrow expressed the truth that the weakness and frequent failures of our laws are not in themselves, but in the human factors concerned with their enactment and enforcement. He was discussing the commutation to one hour of the 10-year sentences imposed upon the four Americans found guilty in Honolulu of manslaughter for the killing of the Hawaiian native who had criminally attacked the wife of one of the four. After a half century of legal practice that included some of the most noted criminal cases in the United States, the great Chicago attorney spoke thus of the conviction of his clients in the Honolulu court and their later commutation of sentence by the governor general of the island:

> It is as it should be. I appreciate what the governor and the judge have done. I appreciate the work of the attorneys in the case and appreciate the fact that the newspapers have given the case wide publicity, so that it went before a jury of 100,000,000 people, most of whom are not hampered by absurd rules of law and do not believe statutes are better than human beings.

These words explain the frequent failure of human enactments even though all humans agree in theory that those enactments are proper and just. There are laws governing the functions of our world and the operation of cosmos that are perfect because they are beyond human control. Then there are moral laws that are innately perfect, yet they are frequently ignored and trampled upon because their enforcement and observance are within human discretion. Our code of statutes, exclusive of fixed moral laws, are nothing more than the expression of the will and purpose of the people at the particular time they were enacted.

The extreme fallibility of human judgment along this line is being shown in the repeal of statutes that are now foolish but that seemed right and proper and just at the time they were enacted. This fallibility is also revealed in the matter of observance and enforcement of laws enacted in our own day. We need go no further than the wholesale violations of our present prohibition law, violations that are possible both because human agencies of enforcement have been corrupted and because humans accept the plain truth that their statutes are no better than themselves.

In the Hawaiian case it was the human failure in the enforcement of one law that caused the human defiance of another law. And both of the statutes that were violated are part of our moral canons. Had the law that protected women against such attacks as that made upon the wife of Lieutenant Massie been enforced, there would have been neither opportunity nor occasion for him, his mother-in-law and the two sailors to violate the law that the verdict against them attempted to enforce after the failure of enforcement in the previous case.

Herein is an issue where the law itself, because of the failure of human enforcement, must be charged with its own violation. Humanly enacted laws are neither bigger nor better than human beings. The jury that failed to enforce the grave violation of the law against the person of Mrs. Massie was responsible for the violation of the law against the person of her assailant. There was no justice in allowing the cause to go without some corrective measure and then attempting to use such correction upon the effect.

The verdict of the jury that would have consigned the four defendants to 10 years' imprisonment was nothing else than evidence of another human error or failure in law enforcement. Justice must be impartial as well as fair. It was not so in the two interdependent Hawaiian cases. So the move of the judge and governor general to restore equality and impartiality was nothing else than the assertion that ultimate and fundamental justice must prevail.

If the human factor in the first case had properly functioned and the second case arose regardless, then the only defense of the latter would be no more than the false claim that one wrong justified another. But such a situation did not exist when the second violation of the law was committed. There was nothing left for the fallible human factor to do but atttempt to set up justice through the establishment of equality and impartiality.

And this seeking of justice will justify all efforts that may be made to remove from the four defendants any disability as to citizenship that the verdict of the jury against them imposed.

Anderson, S. C. Inden[illegible]

LAW AND LYNCHINGS

Thursday, May 12, 1932

"Like breeds like." To permit disregard of law for one reason leads to disregard of it for other reasons or even for no reason at all. It may as well be admitted at the outset of discussion of the subject that many men and women accepted as good citizens condone lynchings for one cause and some of those men, under provocation, will even actively engage in summary administration of punishment. However, to permit lynchings where the cause for the lynching leads to condonation of it by persons regarded as good citizens will inevitably lead to lynchings which such citizens do not condone and make difficult punishment of those who engage in lynchings not condoned by good citizens.

In this state, many lynchings were due to the law itself. It used to forbid the death penalty for rape, unless the attempt at rape were successful. This was contrary to public opinion, which demanded death as the punishment for even an attempt at rape. This led to lynchings in cases where the law could not administer a death sentence in accord with general public opinion. This defeat of law has been remedied by making an attempt at rape legally punishable with death in this state, which change has contributed to the lessening of the number of lynchings in this state.

Another cause of summary "justice" was that relatives and friends of a woman who was attacked wanted to save her from the second death of testifying in public to the details of the crime. One who has never been present when a woman went through that most horrible experience cannot realize how horrible it really is. Virginia met this situation by permitting the victim to give her testimony by deposition. The attempt to change our law similarly met with defeat. If our law were so chaned, lynchings condoned by good citizens would practically cease, which would have a deterrent effect upon lynchings for other causes and make easier legal punishment of those who engage in such lynchings.

All of this is brought up by the course of Mrs. Massie in dodging a subpoena for appearance as a witness in a second trial of the four survivors of the five she charged with attacking her, the first trial having resulted in a mistrial, the jury failing to agree. One experience was enough for her. She was determined not to repeat it. Were it possible for her testimony to be given by deposition in Hawaii, as in Virginia, she would have been available as a witness by deposition for a second trial of her assailants.

And there is a curious fact about comment of the conviction of her husband, mother and two navy enlisted men for the killing of the leader of those who assaulted her, the one who broke her jaw. Papers which denounce lynchings by the whole countryside, especially when they occur in the South, condemned the conviction of those four, who constituted a small lynching party, and commend the governor for commuting their sentence and demand pardons for them. Why the difference? The South being Democratic, the important negro voter in pivotal Northern states, can be kept in line, to some extent, by denunciation of lynchings of negroes in Southern states.

NEW YORK WORLD — Telegram

MAY 31 1932

RACIAL STRIFE WANES IN SOUTH DESPITE SLUMP

Negroes Feel Pinch on Farms as Depression Forces Cuts in Credits.

LYNCHINGS ARE FEWER

Struggle with Whites Over Jobs So Far Has Taken Lives of Only Five.

(Copyright, 1932, by the United Press.)

ATLANTA, May 31.—The course of the Southern Negro in the economic depression—wherein thousands of whites have looked with natural self-interest upon jobs held by Negroes—has been marked by striking lack of race friction, some leaders of the two races agree.

Dr. Will W. Alexander, executive director of the Interracial Relations Commission, with headquarters here, told the United Press that he had been "amazed" to find that the depression has not fanned racial hostilities. Lynching figures, he discovered, were way below recent years.

Negro tenant farmers, especially, he said, have felt the full effect of the depression.

"Land owners in many sections," he declared, "have been forced to curtail, and in some cases abolish, credits heretofore available to their tenants. This is shown by rural Negroes going into the cities for food.

"Another indication of Negro want was observed recently at a flour dispensary in the Alabama county, where Tuskegee Institute is located. In one day, 500, approximately, applied for aid, yet a similar depot for whites was almost idle."

There have been isolated instances of violent outbreaks by whites seeking jobs of Negroes, such as at Jackson, Miss., Vicksburg, Miss., Jacksonville, Fla. The known death list stands at five, all at Vicksburg. All but two of the leading hotels in Atlanta have supplanted Negro bellhops by whites.

"A helpful factor," Dr. Alexander said, "is the indifference and scepticism of the Negroes in their reaction to Communist agitators, and the companion lack of outward resentment by Southern whites. It means, I think, that the Negro is 'sold' on the existing economic order, and wants none of Communism."

Lynchings-1932

Discussions.

White Press, (Northern)

3618

ST. LOUIS MO.
POST DISPATCH

FEB 13 1932

Making History of Lynching

Denying that lynching is "a defense of womanhood or of anything else," Southern woman's group is leading effective fight on the evil; records show assaults on women cause only a minority of cases; total of mob murders falling, while greater number is frustrated; lynchers are not "Southern gentlemen," but lawless fringe.

Lisbeth Parrott, Member North Carolina State Board of Welfare, in the Survey

SOUTHERN women, aroused and organized, have taken up the challenge of mob violence and have stripped from the lyncher his mask as guardian of the chastity of womanhood. The protest took form in November, 1930, at a meeting of white women from eight Southern states called by Jessie Daniel Ames, director of women's work of the Committee on International Co-Operation. In little more than a year it has gained a force and volume that is having wide reverberations. From this meeting was broadcast a significant statement:

"We are profoundly convinced that lynching is not a defense of womanhood or of anything else, but rather a menace to private and public safety and a deadly blow to our most sacred institution. Instead of deterring irresponsible and criminal classes from further crime, as is argued, lynching tends inevitably to destroy all respect for law and order. It represents the complete breakdown of government and the triumph of anarchy. It brutalizes children who frequently witness its orgies and particularly the youth who are usually conspicuous participants.

"In its indiscriminate haste for revenge, the mob sometimes takes the lives of innocent persons and often inflicts death for minor offenses. It brings contempt upon America as the only country where such crimes occur, discredits our civilization and discounts the Christian religion around the globe. We would call attention to the fact that lynching is not alone the crime of ignorant and irresponsible mobs, but that every citizen who condones it even by his silence must accept a share of its guilt.

"We therefore call upon all our public officials to use every power at their disposal to protect from mob anarchy the laws they are sworn to defend; upon our religious leaders to cry aloud against this crime until it ceases to exist; upon parents and teachers to train up a generation incapable of such relapses into barbarism."

* * *

The statement carried into every city and town, highway and byway of the South. It was strongly supported by the press. Influential groups of women took it up. State organizations were formed. All sorts of organized bodies joined in the protest. When the second conference of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching was held in Atla[illegible] 1931, the whole movement had gained breadth and authority. It was apparent that Southern women meant it when they said that "lynching is not a defense of womanhood or of anything else."

The flare-up of mob violence in 1930 undoubtedly stimulated the women's protest and gave force to their propaganda. According to Tuskegee Institute, 21 lynchings occurred that year, 11 more than in 1929, 10 more than in 1928. All, except two in Indiana, were chargeable to the Southern states. Even North Carolina, which for nine years had boasted a clear record, slipped back into the lynching belt when an Edgecomb County Negro was strung up.

In 1931, Tuskegee reports 13 persons lynched, 12 of them Negroes, 10 of them in the hands of the law when the mobs seized them. Five were charged with murder, five with attempted rape and three with assaulting white men. Three of the outrages occurred in Mississippi, two each in Florida and West Virginia and one each in Alabama, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee. In the past nine years, every state in the South has had one or more lynchings. North Carolina has had one, Mississippi 49. Of 224 instances of mob violence in the country during that period, 216 occurred in the South.

Although lynchings are popularly supposed to result from outraged public feeling following a criminal assault upon a white woman, Southern women deny this in a majority of cases, and marshal facts to prove their position. Out of 224 lynchings of the past nine years, only 70 of the victims were accused of rape or attempted rape, Seventy-seven were accused of murder. In at least 20 cases, no definite accusation appeared. In other cases accusations ranged from "not knowing his place" to "improper conduct and insulting language," from "acting as a witness against two white men charged with crime" to "insisting on eating in a restaurant when refused service." All the offenses charged were far removed from what tradition says was the original lynching offense, horse stealing.

Figures compiled by Tuskegee Institute dating back to 1885 show that 4203 persons were lynched between that year and 1924. Yearly totals have steadily declined, with the number of white victims decreasing more rapidly than the number of Negro victims. North Carolina, for instance, has not lynched a white man since 1906, although 21 lynchings have occurred within its boundaries. In 1914, the records show 52 lynchings and 17 instances in which mobs were frustrated. Ten years later there were 16 lynchings and 45 preventions.

Lynchings have become so associated with the South that other sections of the country have come to think that hot-headed Southern gentlemen seize shotguns and rope whenever they hear a rumor of a crime. As a matter of fact, it is not the gentlemen, hot-headed or otherwise, who figure in mobs. Mobs, whenever their members are identified, are usually found to be the rabble, the lawless fringe which is a thorn in the flesh of the community at all times.

No one will deny that it takes courage for Southern women to strip the "defense of womanhood" mask from lynching and to take as their goal the prevention of the whole horrible business. But they are going at it with determination. They are mobilizing their forces in an orderly way to create public opinion to outlaw this outlawry. Each state unit must carry on an active and aggressive propaganda, must inject speakers into every possible meeting, must enlist the co-operation of existing organizations, must promote the passage of resolutions and give them publicity and must make active efforts to bring to justice persons involved in the perpetration of a lynching. The Committee on Interracial Co-Operation is strongly behind them. Lynchings, say Southern women, must become a matter of history, not news.

ST. LOUIS, MO
STAR

MAR 24 1932

Negro Delegate Hits at Caulfield in Lynching Case

ST. JOSEPH, MO., March 24—(By U. P.)—Asserting he wanted Gov. Caulfield "to know just where I stand on this thing,' the Rev. C. P. Morrow, ~~negro~~ delegate to the Buchanan County convention of Republicans here, voted against a resolution indorsing the governor.

Morrow asserted that the governor had failed to call out the militia to protect Raymond Gunn, negro, who was burned to death by a Maryville, Mo., mob in January, 1931, after he had been accused of attacking and slaying a young school teacher.

ST. JOSEPH, MO.
GAZETTE

MAR 24 1932

REPUBLICANS SOFT PEDAL 1931 LYNCHING

Negro Refuses to Admire Gov. Caulfield

A voice was raised at the Republican County convention at the courthouse Wednesday afternoon against Governor Henry S. Caulfield because of the lynching of a Negro at Maryville, but it did not prevent the convention from expressing pride and admiration of the governor and his administration.

The Rev. C. P. Morrow, Negro, in the Sixth ward delegation, moved that the convention strike out the words "proud" and "admire" from a resolution indorsing Caulfield which had been reported by the resolutions committee.

There was no second to the motion and when the vote was taken on the Caulfield indorsement Morrow was the only one to raise his hand against it.

Burning of Gunn.

There were fifteen Negro delegates in the convention.

"There is a clause in that resolution that my conscience will not permit me to accept," said Morrow when the resolution was presented. "Governor Caulfield has not been fair and he is not to be admired because of that awful, tragic thing that happened at Maryville.

"I called Governor Caulfield and warned him of the dreadful condition at Maryville forty-eight hours before it happened, and in the face of my warning and the warning of others I feel I would be doing an injustice to my conscience and my comrades if I did not object to this resolution.

"I move to amend the resolution by striking out the words proud and admire."

The Maryville affair was the burning to death of Raymond Gunn, Maryville Negro, on a schoolhouse in January, 1931, after he was accused of attacking and brutally murdering a white school teacher.

Negroes in Huddle.

After the convention adjourned Dr. J. R. A. Crossland called the Negro delegates into a conference in one corner of the room. Doctor Crossland and others of the Negroes began talking to Morrow. Morrow was heard to make some remarks about letting the convention know how he felt and in a moment they dispersed.

Along with the Caulfield indorsement was one expressing unqualified approval of President Hoover and another taking "especial pleasure in commending the magnificent record of our representative in congress, the Honorable David Hopkins."

Col. John D. McNeely, federal referee in bankruptcy and long an ardent party worker, was unanimously chosen Buchanan County's delegate to the national convention, an honor which has always gone every four years to an outstanding Republican.

Support to McNeely.

Aside from the Caulfield incident no dissenting voice was raised in the convention. There were shouts and applause when McNeely's name was mentioned for national delegate and again when it was approved. The Caulfield, Hoover and Hopkins indorsements were greeted with applause.

Alexander Hamilton forses threw their support to McNeely at the last minute. Fred Windsor, one of the Hamilton group, nominated McNeely for delegate.

The convention indorsed Dr. E. B. Clem[illegible] of Macon for re-election as national committeeman from Missouri.

The list of delegates to the district convention at Savannah next Monday and to the state convention in St. Louis April 12 was approved without objection as presented by George C. Toel, chairman of the committee on delegates.

Admire Common Sense.

John P. Randolph was chairman of the resolutions committee and Dr. J. M. Bell of the committee on order of business. McNeeley served as chairman of the convention and Mrs. Price Hopkins was secretary.

The Caulfield indorsement declared "we are proud of the administration of Governor Henry S. Caulfield.

"From the beginning of his term of office he has fearlessly pressed his program of putting state government on a sound and efficient business basis, and for the reduction of taxes. He has exhibited courageous and constructive leadership during a time of stress, and in the face of the political opposition of a hostile legislature. We admire his honesty of purpose and his good common sense. His official acts have met with state-wide approval to an extraordinary degree and we express the earnest hope that when he retires from the governor's office at the expiration of his term he will not retire from public service."

"Matchless Leadership."

The indorsement of President Hoover follows:

"We, the Republicans of Buchanan County, Missouri, in convention assembled, unqualifiedly indorse the administration of Herbert Hoover. Under his matchless leadership we are steadily moving forward to a solution of the economic problems confronting us, and we pledge ourselves to work unceasingly for his re-election in order that he may complete the great task of financial reconstruction.

"Never before has a president been called upon to direct the nation's commerce, industry and banking, to create jobs for millions to provide funds for the care of the unemployed, to lead in the mitigation of the effects of the depression, and to mobilize public opinion and the economic forces of the nation for its recovery. In all the history of our nation this is the first time the administration of any party ever made a sensible, systematic, heroic effort to stay the progress of an economic depression.

"No president since Lincoln has faced problems as grave as those that have confronted President Hoover. Instead of showing incapacity for leadership in the crisis President Hoover has been the steadying influence in an economic decline of world-wide proportions."

The indorsement of Representative Hopkins follows:

"We take especial pleasure in commending the magnificent record of our representative in congress, the Honorabl David Hopkins, who has done so much to reflect credit upon our community. He has never failed to take a sound position on all questions of public policy and by his vote he has loyally aided and sustained the president in his constructive and progressive program. If he again becomes a candidate for election to the congress of the United States we pledge to him our hearty and enthusiastic support, and we unhesitatingly recommend him to the voters of Missouri as worthy of their support and fully equipped to serve this great state in the national law-making body."

Following are the delegates to the state convention:

Mrs. John Wyeth, John Schuder, C. U. Philley, B. G. Voorhees, Alva F. Lindsay, Leo V. Anderson, A. B. Neudorff, G. L. Zwick, Walter Meierhoffer, George C. Toel, Alex Hamilton, H. E. McPherson, C. E. Wright, Frederick Wenger, James P. Andriano, William Seaman, E. A. Michel, John D. McNeely, Del Baker, Murray Kalis, E. M. Mathews, James Campbell, V. A. Marion, Mrs. George Kellogg, Grant Althouse, John P. Randolph, Miles Elliott, W. H. Kueker, J. R. A. Crossland, Rev. E. L. Hollis, Rev. B. R. Munroe, J. W. Moore, Fred Henderson, Jess R. Barnes.

Following are the delegates to the district convention at Savannah:

C. U. Philley, W. N. Robertson, Rev. L. V. Harmon, Mrs. B. G. Voorhees, Mrs. J. B. Abercrombie, Mrs. G. L. Zwick, Mrs. G. H. Ruwwe, John P. Randolph, Henry Mack, Casper Carlson, John D. McNeely, Elliott Marshall Jr., Walter Meierhoffer, Alva Lindsay, John A. Duncan Jr., E. M. Mathews, George E. McIninch, W. D. Webb, W. R. Nelson, Lewis Stubbs, Mrs. A. E. Rush, Mrs. T. R. Wall Jr., John W. Patt, Mrs. Byron Byers, Mrs. Laura Behrendt, Mrs. Frieda Herman, J. B. Hardin, Dr. Felix Anderson, James N. Dever, Dr. J. R. Bunch, Lee Webster, Fred Brimson, C. S. Wheatly, Rev. C. P. Morrow.

RANKIN LIKELY CHICAGO DELEGATE.

Reports received in St. Joseph Wednesday night indicated that Durham Rankin of Tarkio will be one of the two delegates from the Fourth congressional district to the Republican national convention in Chicago. The other will be John D. McNeely of St. Joseph by reason of the indorsement given him by the Republican county convention Wednesday.

Because of the preponderance of population Buchanan County is allowed one of the two district delegates and the other five counties are given the other. It is customary for the five to pass the honor around. Four years ago W. F. Phares of Maryville, Nodaway County, went. This time the honor is said to be due Atchison County and sentiment is said to favor Rankin who is a member of the executive committee of the Republican state committee.

Nation- N.Y

APR 6 19

THE FREE STATE of Maryland has duly and officially acted on the matter of the Negro lynched on January 4 in Salisbury Courthouse Square after he had killed his employer. One hundred and twenty witnesses were solemnly heard by the grand jury investigating the case; seventy of them testified in one day. In view of this latter rather considerable number, it is perhaps not entirely surprising that the grand jury reported: "We find that there is absolutely no evidence that can remotely connect anyone with the instigation or perpetration of the murder." So commonplace has a finding of this nature become, after a grand-jury session on a lynching, that it would be hardly worth comment if the State were not Maryland, and if Governor Ritchie and State's Attorney Bailey had not been so emphatic in their declarations that everything possible would be done to bring the lynchers to court. One wonders whether the examination of more than a hundred witnesses in a three-day session would give opportunity for quite the detailed investigation that might be required. It is worth noting, also, that our highly esteemed neighbor, the Baltimore *Sun,* had no editorial comment whatever to make on the grand-jury findings. After a lynching has taken place, a regular routine of indignant protest and do-nothing investigation has grown up. Maryland has dutifully followed the routine.

THE ALABAMA SUPREME COURT, by a vote of six to one, has upheld the conviction of seven of the eight Scottsboro Negroes for rape, and the date of execution has been fixed as May 13. The eighth boy, Eugene Williams, since he was less than sixteen years old at the time of the alleged crime, will be remanded for a new trial. A motion for an appeal to the United States Supreme Court will at once be filed, and it is in this court that the real test of the case—in which the precedent of the Arkansas riot cases will figure—will come. Meanwhile the International Labor Defense, whose attorneys conducted the last appeal, has dutifully made the usual protestant gestures. A telegram to Governor Miller declares: "Millions of workers throughout world enraged at State Supreme Court confirmation of death verdicts against Scottsboro boys." And the following protest was wired to Chief Justice John Anderson of the Alabama Supreme Court:

> Your confirmation of death verdicts against innocent Scottsboro boys is blow against working class, especially poor Negroes in South. Workers throughout world protest this upholding of legal lynching and obvious frame-ups. . . . By all our resources of mass-organization appeal to public and legal measures we pledge to fight this terror which your decision will aid.

Since Justice Anderson's was the one dissenting vote in the decision, this particular gesture seems just a bit ungrateful. But one can be encouraged to remember that the best test of the case is yet to be had, and that the Supreme Court of the United States is not likely to be prejudiced by this sort of windy indignation, even allowing it to be necessary in order to raise funds for the defense. The boys still have a chance for their lives.

Lynchings-1932

3619

White Press, (Northern.)

Discussions.

MESSENGER

Snow Hill, Md

JAN 30 1932

ATTACKS REPORT ON LYNCHING

Eastern Shoremen Resent Federal Council's Blaming Entire Shore

The following appeared in the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin of Monday:

Indignant protest against the "Federal Council of Churches of Christ acting without full facts and outside its proper realm" in the Council's criticism of the residents of the Eastern Shore of Maryland, was made today by prominent citizens of that section.

A survey report just made by the Council censures the Sheriff and his deputies, the police, "the intelligent citizens" and the churches for their failure to stop the recent lynching in Salisbury.

The Rev. George W. Dawson, pastor of the Centreville M. E. Church, in commenting on the report, said:

"Such statements are ridiculous and absurd. Such remarks as the report makes must ultimately bring the Council into disrepute. The long association of myself and thousands of others with the people of the Eastern Shore enables us to state with definite certainty and truthfulness that there is as much intellectual capacity and moral responsibility here as you will find among any other people in America. Unfavorable and untrue statements concerning the Eastern Shore should come to an end."

Dr. William J. Holloway, principal of the State Normal School, Salisbury, said: "Many of us who know the university professor whose views are quoted understand how to take his slanderous utterances concerning this Peninsula. He doesn't understand us and his intellectual slant is that he cannot understand the charm inherent in the Eastern Shore.

"It is quite typical of what some of the teacher friends of mine, who have sat in his classes, both winter and summer, have reported concerning some of his scholarly lectures and his manner of conducting classroom discussions. From the academic halls, where he thought he was scattering pearls of wisdom, they have come away laughing at his extravagant, sensation-seeking, often vapid statements."

The Salisbury Evening Times today commented editorially: "So much of unfairness and untruth is recognized in the report of the Federal Council of Churches that the best reply is to completely ignore it.

"If the Federal Council of Churches would devote the same energies to the suppression of communism in Baltimore and other metropolitan centers, and to elimination of loopholes in the American legal system, the organization would go far toward abolishing the cause of lynching throughout the country.

"Dr. Mitchell, like many others, has missed the major point at issue, for he fails to differentiate between justice and law and order."

Sheriff Luther Daugherty says that law enforcement in Somerset County would be easier if Baltimore city Communist organizations and church leagues would attend to their own affairs.

[Dr. Mitchell is a graduate of the University of Delaware. He is noted for being egotistical and inclined to spread Russian propaganda in this country, since he visited Russia last summer. In his report he took the assertions of Mencken for facts, and as Mencken and Mitchell have both outgrown America, they no doubt have a feeling that their superior intelligence is not properly appreciated on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. The unfortunate part is that strangers to the Eastern Shore may not understand that reports of Mencken and Mitchell are both inspired by pique; Dr. Mitchell because Salisbury people paid so little attention to him while he was there. Dr. Mencken, because the Eastern Shore criticised him so unmercifully for being pro-German during the World War.—Eds. Messenger.]

WILMINGTON, DEL.
NEWS

JAN 25 1932

SALISBURY MORALE SCORED BY PROBER OF LYNCHING CASE

Professor Says Eastern Shore Mentally and Spiritually Backward

EXCUSES MADE

Declares Only Two Persons Attempted to Stop Operations of Mob

The results of an investigation of the lynching at Salisbury, Md., on December 4, 1931, were made public yesterday by the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America in New York. The inquiry was made by Pro. Broadus Mitchell of the Department of Political Economy, Johns Hopkins University, acting in behalf of the Federal Council's Commission on Race Relations.

The investigation had to do with the hanging and burning of Matthew Williams, a mentally defective negro who had shot and killed his employer and who, after trying to kill himself, was taken from a Salisbury hospital, hanged and burned. Prof. Mitchell's study, according to the report, attempted to discover the conditions in the community which made a lynching possible and the effects of the lynching upon the attitudes of the citizens.

Backward Conditions

As a contributory factor, Professor Mitchell cites the geographical isolation of the community resulting in rather backward conditions. The chief explanation given by the residents of the community for the lynching was that two serious crimes in which negroes were accused had occurred in the locality shortly before and had aroused public feeling.

Professor Mitchell makes a frank criticism of the attitude of the community as a whole saying that "two weeks after the lynching the place was rife with excuses for the hanging, if not, indeed, full of justifications of it." This attitude of self-defense was stimulated by the criticism of Salisbury which came from other parts of the State. The sectional feeling was increased when a local newspaper stated that the Eastern Shore, on which Salisbury is located, feels "that the greater part of the responsibility for it (the lynching) results from the interference of Baltimore city in the affairs of the Shore. * * *" The sectional feeling ran so high that several Salisbury merchants even cancelled orders with Baltimore firms.

Only Two Act

Prof. Mitchell found only two citizens who had made any effort to prevent the lynching and comments that "the most sorrowful reflection is not that some ignorant countrymen and townsmen gave way to violence, but that no one from among the intelligent and fair-minded citizens exerted himself with spirit and determination to stop the lynching."

The conclusions of Prof. Mitchell's study are summarized as follows:

"In a sense, the Chesapeake Bay contributed to the lynching in Salisbury. That is, the Eastern Shore is isolated geographically, and has become backward in its mental and spiritual development. It is probably true, as one of the writers prominent in the controversy over the lynching has said, that the Eastern Shore has suffered from the removal of many of its ablest young men. Allowing this to be true, it still must be said that the most sorrowful reflection is not that some ignorant countrymen and townsmen gave way to violence, but that no one from among the intelligent and fair-minded citizens exerted himself with spirit and determination to stop the lynching. Credit should be given to the two citizens (mentioned in the full report) who opposed the mob—one by protesting before the hanging occurred, the other by trying to prevent the barbarism of the burning.

No Excuse for Officers

"If it be said that it occurred too quickly, it is to be answered that there was probably knowledge in the town an hour or more before hand that trouble was brewing. And if private citizens are to be excused, the officers of the law have no excuse. It may fairly be concluded that the chief of police, his three patrolmen who were on duty and the sheriff and his deputies, offered no resistance to the lynching. The impression was received by the inquirer that the public spirit of Salisbury is far below what is desirable. Those whom one would expect to be leaders in a crisis decided to fall in with the ignorant, the prejudiced, the frightened, the sullenly boastful.

"Salisbury has given proof of its lack of civic morality—not only in the lynching and burning, but even more pointedly in the childish defenses offered for the lynching afterwards. One feels that the business organizations stand for nothing better than mere town boosting, and the churches have neglected the application of religion to life. The town of Salisbury needs an active local interracial committee."

POST
BALTIMORE, MD.

JAN 25 1932

J. H. U. TEACHER HITS SALISBURY IN LYNCH REPORT

Mitchell Finds Community Is 'Rife With Excuses for The Hanging'

Frank criticism of Salisbury residents for their attitude regarding the recent lynching there is contained in a report by Prof. Broadus Mitchell, of Johns Hopkins University, on his investigation of the entire affair for the Federal Counci of the Churches of Christ in America.

Professor Mitchell's investigation according to an announcement today at the council headquarters in New York, was directed at discovery of conditions that made the lynching possible and also of the effec of the lynching on the community

Three Days at Scene

According to the announcement Professor Mitchell spent three days in Salisbury about two weeks after the lynching. He talked with ministers, members of the police force several bank presidents, Sheriff G Murray Phillips and several Negro residents.

He found the community "rife with excuses for the hanging, if not indeed, full of justification for it," the announcement states.

"This attitude of self-defense was stimulated by the criticism of Salisbury which came from other parts of the state. The sectional feeling was increased when a local newspaper stated the Eastern Shore, on which Salisbury is located, feels 'that the greater part of the responsibility results from the interference of Bal-

PHILADELPHIA, PA.
BULLETIN

JAN 26 1932

CRITICISM RESENTED ON EASTERN SHORE

Prominent Maryland Residents Answer Federal Council Report on Lynching

SURVEY HELD SUPERFICIAL

The Federal Council of Church of Christ in America was charged today by prominent citizens of the Eastern Shore of Maryland with "meddling in affairs outside its realm" and issuing "an unfair report based on a 3-day survey."

The indignant protests follow the publication by the Council of a report on the recent lynching of a colored man at Salisbury, [illegible] The report is based on a survey made by Professor Broadus Mitchell, of Johns Hopkins University. The protests are against that section of the report which refers to the Eastern Shore as "backward in its mental and spiritual development."

The Federal Council in recent years has been the center of stormy protests against reports on "birth control" and "prohibition." On these previous occasions the Council has disclaimed any intention of speaking for its constituent Protestant bodies.

The report follows an inquiry by the Council's representative, Professor Mitchell, into the conditions surrounding the recent lynching of Matthew Williams, colored, after he had killed his employer. Williams attempted to kill himself. He was taken by an indignant crowd from the Salisbury Hospital and hanged.

Sheriff Luther Daugherty declared that law enforcement in Somerset county would be easier if Baltimore city, Communist organizations and church leagues would attend to their own affairs.

W. Clyde Ford, member of the board of county commissioners for Somerset, said he resents the interference of outside influences. Mr. Ford asserts that all right thinking people deplore the recent lynching at Salisbury, but states that he fails to see how Dr. Mitchell or any other man can learn after a 2-day residence in one locality on the shore the attitude and outlook of an entire section comprising nine counties. He says Dr. Mitchell distorts the truth when he refers to the man hanged as being "mentally defective."

C. Edwin Hayman, president of the Rotary Club at Princess Anne, said:

"The Shore is not isolated. Its people are not backward, but rank with any section of the country in intelligence, public morals, and common decency. Of course, the Shore as a whole regrets the lynching, but I fail to see how the meddling of church organizations which ought to know better will help the people of the Shore. We need no help and there is enough intelligence on the Shore to enable us to work out our own problems."

The Rev. George A. Morris, pastor of Grace Methodist Protestant Church, Centreville, said:

"The unjust criticism by Dr. Mitchell relative to the Salisbury lynching does more harm than good. He says that he visited Salisbury from Friday until Sunday. What a short time it takes some men to grasp the mentality and spirituality of a people! If Dr. Mitchell does not know any more about political economy than he does about the Eastern Shore and the intelligence and morality of its people, then he is zero. The Council devotes its time and talents to constructive endeavor. No possible good can come out of such statements. We can attend to our own business here on the Eastern Shore without meddling from either Dr. Mitchell or the Council."

Citizens of Cambridge said they felt a survey could have been compiled better by someone wholly from without the State and not from Baltimore city, where prejudice is felt to exist against the Eastern Shore.

Milton L. Veasey, State Senator from Worcester county, said:

"I am somewhat disposed to ignore all the diatribes that have been launched against the Eastern Shore, because our traducers have manifested a woeful ignorance of this section of country. We have here, of course, many differently constituted people, but the best, most conservative, the real bone and sinew of the Shore, should not be blamed for the outbursts of a few uncontrolled individuals."

Colmore E. Byrd, cashier, Citizens National Bank, said:

"The conclusions of Dr. Mitchell as to the isolation of the Eastern Shore and its mental and spiritual development are manifestly false."

State Senator Beauchamp said that the murder of Daniel Elliott in Salisbury and subsequent lynching of William Matthews is directly traceable to the activities of the International Labor Defense League and its representatives.

"All Eastern Shore men regret the unfortunate occurrence," he said, at Salisbury, "but we people of the Eastern Shore know that it was brought on by the delay in bringing to justice Euel Lee and the activities of an anarchistic and Communistic group in Baltimore."

timore City in the affairs of the Shore'."

Hits Town Leaders

The council statement reports that Professor Mitchell "found only two citizens who had made any effort to prevent the lynching." It included Professor Mitchell's comment that "the most sorrowful reflection is not that some ignorant countrymen and townsmen gave way to violence but that no one from among the intelligent and fair-minded citizens exerted himself with spirit and determination to stop the lynching."

In explanation of conditions on the Eastern Shore, the report states, Professor Mitchell cited, as a contributory factor, "the geographical isolation of the community, resulting in rather backward conditions."

Public Spirit Low

"The impression was received by the inquirer," the council statement says, "that the public spirit of Salisbury is far below what is desirable. Those whom one should expect to be leaders in a crisis decided to fall in with the ignorant, the prejudiced, the frightened, the sullenly boastful.

"Salisbury has given ample proof of its lack of civic morality—not only in the lynching and burning, but even more pointedly in the childish defenses offered afterward. One feels that business organizations stand for nothing better than mere town boosting, and the churches have neglected the application of religion to life."

Professor Mitchell today said he preferred to add no comments to the Church Council statement. He said that since the council had seen fit to omit the names of the two persons he discovered who sought to halt the lynching he would not feel at liberty to reveal them.

BOSTON, MASS.
POST

FEB 16 1932

ANTI-LYNCHING LAW DEMANDED

Resolve Sent to Hoover by Equal Rights League

At the annual commemoration exercises of the birth of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, held by the National Equal Rights league in the Concord Baptist Church, at 991 Tremont street, South End, last night, a resolution was adopted calling upon President Hoover to recommend a federal anti-lynching law and to rebuke the United States admiral who publicly approved lynching.

The resolution addressed to the President will also be sent to Congress. It read: "Be it resolved at the 115th birth anniversary of Frederick Douglass that the Boston branch and national headquarters of the National Equal Rights league calls upon President Hoover in the name of Lincoln, the emancipator, and of Douglass, the colored abolitionist and advocate of equality, so that their labors may not have been in vain, to recommend a federal anti-lynching law, and to rebuke an admiral of the United States navy who publicly approves lynching.

"Also to abolish color seggregation in the executive departments, which encourages civil discrimination everywhere else.

"Be it further resolved that we, in the names of Douglass and Lincoln, call upon Representative Dyer of the House judiciary committee, author of the Dyer anti-lynching bill, to introduce and push it in the House, and upon Senator George W. Norris, chairman of the Senate judiciary committee, to introduce and push in the Senate a federal statute, making lynching, which atrocious anarchy has even now but stopped at the boundary of the national capital itself, a crime against the federal government which endangers and disgraces."

Another resolution was also adopted to the effect "that we ask Senator David I. Walsh and Representative John W. McCormack of Massachusetts to themselves introduce and push federal anti-lynching bills in case this is not done by the respective judiciary committees."

JOPLIN, MO.
News

APR 19 1932

Lynching in Kansas.

The lynching of Richard Read, 53, who attacked and killed 8-year-old Dorothy Hunter out in northwestern Kansas, was not much of a surprise. Since the facts of the vile deed became known there seemed a reasonable certainty the guilty man would not reach a court trial.

The people of Kansas are as law-abiding as any in the world, take them as a whole, but there are still some crimes that apparently people are convinced can be adequately punished in no other manner than by lynching. Theoretically, lynch law is always a mistake, but red-blooded people in every community in the United States will continue to make these mistakes under sufficient provocation.

Kansas has not been markedly free from lynchings, however. From 1889 to 1930, inclusive, the state recorded twenty-five, thirteen of the victims being white and twelve black. In the same period there were no lynchings in Massachusetts, Maine, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Rhode Island or Vermont. Also, in the same period, there were 463 lynchings in Georgia, 452 in Mississippi, 349 in Texas and 340 in Louisiana. In all, 4,308 persons have been lynched in the United States since 1885 up to the close of 1930.

It is a queer fact that the man who gave the name to this sort of summary and illegal practice of indignant people taking the law into their own hands did not himself ever go so far as administration of the death penalty.

Charles Lynch was a Pennsylvania planter, born in 1726. In conjunction with Robert Adams and Thomas Calloway, he undertook to protect American society by punishing outlaws and traitors. Desperadoes were captured and given an informal trial. If declared guilty they were punished with stripes or banishment. Tories were hung up by their thumbs until they cried, "Liberty forever!" But no one was ever killed.

Before this Charles Lynch, however, there was another of the same name from whom some claim the term lynching became so denominated. This was James Fitz-Stephen Lynch, mayor of Galway, Ireland. He was a judge and he sentenced his own son to death for hanging and then, fearing a rescue, had the culprit brought home and hanged before his own door. Modern lynchings hold few stories more grim than this.

Lynchings - 1932
& Discussions.

White Press, (Northern)

3620

[redacted]

THE SUN'S RAYS

Fifty Famous Trials—Leo M. Frank

Atlanta's Tragic Story of the Strange Murder of a Factory Girl—Trial No. 42.

By R. CORNELIUS RABY.

Soon after noon on Saturday, April 26, 1913, Mary Phagan, a fourteen-year-old girl in the employ of the National Pencil Company in Atlanta, Ga., called at the office of the factory superintendent, Leo M. Frank, to draw some wages that were due her. The factory was not in operation because it was Memorial Day in Georgia, and the only persons in the building besides Mr. Frank were two workmen and a woman on the top floor.

Precisely what happened to Mary Phagan after she left Frank's office with the money she had received will never be known; but at 3 o'clock next morning her lifeless body was found in the basement of the factory by Newt Lee, the Negro night watchman. Her eye ~~was discolored from~~ a blow, there was a gash on her head and minor bruises on her body, but death had apparently been produced by strangulation from a strong cord that was tightly bound about her throat.

Physicians who examined the body said she had been dead from twelve to fifteen hours. On the floor near the body were found two rudely scrawled notes. One of them, written on brown paper, read as follows: "Mam that Negro fire down here did this and he pushed me down a hole a long tall black Negro did it i right while play with me."

On April 29 Frank was arrested on suspicion and on May 24 he was indicted for the murder. He entered a plea of not guilty and his trial took place in Atlanta beginning July 28.

Told to Have Good Time.

Newt Lee, the night watchman, testified that when he arrived at the factory on Saturday afternoon about 4 o'clock Frank told him to go out and have a gord time, but to be back by 6 o'clock. When he returned shortly before 6 Frank was changing the slip in the time clock and seemed to be nervous. About 7 o'clock Frank called him up from the house to inquire whether everything was all right at the factory, a thing which he had never done before.

The principal witness against Frank was a Negro named James Conley, who had been employed at odd jobs in the factory for about two years. Conley was a shiftless and dissolute character who had served in the chain gang a number of times for various offences. Before the trial he made several formal statements disclosing his connection with the crime, every one of which was inconsistent with the others.

On the trial he testified in substance that he had arrived at the factory the same time as Frank, at 8:30 on Saturday morning, and that Frank had asked him to keep watch downstairs, as he expected some women callers. Frank had an arrangement with him that when he stamped his foot Conley was to lock the factory door to prevent any intrusion and when he whistled he was to open it.

Conley saw Mary Phagan come in and he heard her footsteps as she left Frank's office. A few minutes later he heard a scream and then he dozed off. The next thing he heard was Frank stamping his foot. He then locked the door and when Frank whistled he unlocked it and went upstairs. Frank was trembling, and he told Conley that he wanted to be with the little girl, but she refused him and he struck her. She fell and hit her head against something, but he didn't know how badly she was hurt. Frank asked him to go and bring her up. Conley found her in the metal room, about two hundred feet from Frank's office. with a cloth tied about her head and neck.

With Frank's assistance he removed the body to the basement and left it there. The two then returned to Frank's office, where Conley wrote, at Frank's dictation, the two notes which were found beside the body. Frank took a roll of greenbacks from his desk, gave him $200 and told him to go and burn the body with a lot of trash in the basement. When Conley refused to do this Frank took the money back again.

The defense introduced a large number of character witnesses for the prisoner and several factory employees whose testimony tended to discredit Conley's story about Frank's intrigues with women. Frank himself made a lengthy statement to the jury, in which he denounced Conley's story as a complete fabrication. He said that after the Phagan girl had received her wages she had left his office and that was the last he had seen of her. He gave a complete account of his movements on Saturday and showed that he was engaged in the preparation of a financial report during the greater part of the afternoon. Frank's statement was remarkable for its directness and simplicity

Frank was ably defended by some of the leading attorneys of the Atlanta bar, but the trial was pervaded with an atmosphere of extreme hostility and prejudice against the prisoner. The state of the popular feeling against Frank, as reflected even in the attitude of the prosecutor, may justly be described as bloodthirsty, and the jury could not possibly escape its influence.

Sentenced to Be Hanged.

The case went to the jury on August 25, and after four hours' deliberation they returned a verdict of guilty. The prisoner was sentenced to be hanged on October 30, but an appeal was taken and on October 31 the motion for a new trial was denied. This ruling was affirmed on appeal to the Supreme Court of Georgia by a divided vote on February 17, 1914. On March 7 Frank was resentenced to die on April 17. On April 16 a stay was obtained on an extraordinary motion for a new trial, which was denied, and the case was then carried to the United States Supreme Court on a writ of error. This was decided against the prisoner on December 7, and two days later Frank was sentenced for the third time, to be hanged on January 22, 1915. Before that date the case came before the United States Supreme Court again on an application for a certificate of reasonable doubt, which was dismissed on April 19, 1915.

This left the prisoner without further resort in the courts, and his attorneys then applied to the Governor of Georgia for a commutation of his sentence to life imprisonment. On May 31 there was a hearing before the State Prison Commission, which submitted a divided report on June 9, two of the members being opposed to the application and one in favor of it. Gov. Slaton reviewed the record very carefully, and he had the courage, on June 21, 1915, to commute the prisoner's sentence to life imprisonment.

Frank was then removed to the State prison at Milledgeville, but his stay there was destined to be very short. On July 17 he was brutally assaulted by a fellow convict, who slashed his throat with a butcher knife. Before he had fully recovered from this wound, on the night of August 16, a band of men overpowered the prison guards, broke into the prison and took Frank away. They carried him by automobile a distance of 125 miles to Marietta, where the Phagan girl was buried, and at daybreak on August 17 they hanged him to a tree.

For more complete account of this trial see "American State Trials," volume 10 edited by J. D. Lawson. F. H. Thomas Law Book Company, St. Louis. 1918.

Telegram
WORCESTER
MASSACHUSETTS

DEC 29 1932

Decline in Lynchings

There's no opportunity for national or sectional smugness because the number of lynchings in the United States declined from 14 in 1931 to 11 so far this year. There are aspects to the compilation that detract from the hopefulness indicated by the reduction.

For one thing, the list, which includes nine Negroes and two Caucasians done to death, penetrates rather too far North to fit the complacent notion that lynching is just an old Southern custom. Although the South is heavily represented, with only Alabama, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee and the pseudo-Southern state of Oklahoma omitted, the list includes also Kansas and Ohio.

Now it is not altogether surprising that Kansas should include the sort of people who will commit a lynching. Kansas may not be peopled, like the backwashes of Arkansas and South Carolina, with the descendants of levee loafers and hired-man slave-drivers. Unlike parts of Georgia, Kansas has not suffered from a social ferment, submerging the better element beneath a dominant froth of poor whites. But Kansans have a large proportion of folk who seem slightly deranged—perhaps from looking too long at the heavens to see what the weather will be. A lynching in Kansas may be disconcerting elsewhere in the North, but it wouldn't be regarded as symptomatic of Northern temperament, even among a minority.

But Ohio is in a somewhat different status. It is shocking to learn that Ohio has the material for a lynching—enough people of lawless, unintelligent, depraved emotions to murder a man without recourse to legal processes. Ohio is the state which gave us such urbane gentlemen as William Howard Taft and Nicholas Longworth. Ohio is a state where people actually read books out of the public libraries, and where football isn't the most important course at every university. Ohio supports splendid symphony orchestras, and tenors who do not croon and sopranos who do not boop-boop-a-doop. One would expect better things of Ohio—a better grade of civilization, even at the bottom, than is implied by a lynching.

Lynching, however, is only one manifestation of lawless violence. And in other manifestations of this form of social disorder, there is hardly a state that may poke fun at a lynching state. Certainly, New York and Illinois, with their frequent racketeering murders, with their machine-gun barrages, their beer war killings, their bomb-throwing gangs, cannot afford to feel superior, either to Florida, which lynched two men last year, or to Ohio, which only lynched one. Nor is Massachusetts free of the blight of violence. The harsh truth is that a violent death by any citizen of a state puts a stigma on that state. If a state may be blamed for a lynching, the difference is only in degree between that state and a state which may only be blamed because one beer baron with hired killers puts another on the spot.

Lynchings-1932

White Press, (Northern.)

3634

Discussions.

LEWISTON, IDAHO
MORNING TRIBUNE

JAN 2 1932

LYNCHING DIES SLOWLY

Much has been said in late years of the law's delay. Legal minds defend, as they say, the spirit of judicial fairness which prolongs the period between crime and punishment. Unfortunately, in exhausting the last possibility of trial error, all too frequently the guilty escape because time has moved on and their crimes have paled in retrospect. To the lay mind, criminal prosecution has become a game in which the skilled player wins.

With the fairness of that view it is not necessary to deal now. But because it exists a black spot is spread each year upon the fair name of the country. The action of the mobs that end the lives of convicted criminals cannot be condoned.

It is worthy of consideration, however, that there was a sharp drop in the number of lynchings last year, as reported by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which keeps careful track of such things. Despite all the unrest of the past year we did make commendable progress in this respect. To realize how far we advanced it is only necessary to compare the totals for 1891 with 1931, thirty years later, as follows:

1891	192	1921	64
1892	255	1922	57
1893	200	1923	33
1894	190	1924	16
1895	171	1925	17
1896	80	1926	30
1897	122	1927	16
1917	38	1928	11
1918	64	1929	10
1919	83	1930	25
1920	61	1931	14

Since 1885, the earliest year in which a record was compiled, there has been 4,326 people sacrificed on the altar of mob passion. Georgia and Mississippi lead in the number of lynchings, with more than 450 each, but these incidents are not confined to the south. Only six states in the union have a clear record, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Rhode Island and Vermont. Idaho has contributed thirteen lynchings to the grim total, twelve whites and one negro being the victims of this peremptory Gem state justice.

It is a depressing record. But there is hope in the long view of the problem. Better education and a slowly rising standard of public intelligence is pushing back these outbursts of sadistic lawlessness, in spite of the discouraging history.

The time may come when there will be no lynchings in the United States, and this barbarous practice will take its place with the persecution of witches as a historical curiosity. It represents neither courage nor justice.

NEWS
Minot, N.D.

JAN 2 1932

N. D. Editors Agree On Bannon Case as Biggest State News Event of 1931

Lynching of Charles Bannon was the biggest news story of North Dakota origin in 1931, editors of North Dakota daily newspapers agree. In a poll of the state dailies, conducted by The Minot Daily News, five of the seven editors participating placed the Bannon lynching at the head of their list of biggest stories.

Second place, almost as unanimously, went to the drouth stories which came from northwestern North Dakota, hit by unprecedented freak weather.

Third went to the story of botuline poisoning which claimed the lives of 13 persons at Grafton who ate botulinous infected peas in a salad.

The fourth biggest state story of the year was the series of events which grew from the capitol fire, including the legislative acts and appointment of the commission to supervise the new structure together with Jamestown's bid of capital removal.

Other stories in order in the first 10 as gained in the concensus of the editors were: The extortion of $25,000 from O. A. Leach, Wahpeton banker; the death of Norman B. Black, Fargo publisher; the gas tax petition battle; death of the Indian chief, Red Tomahawk; the derailment of the Empire Builder by a tornado near Fargo; the formation of state and county taxpayers' associations.

Other stories which found scattering favor were Minot's battle over a natural gas franchise, finally decided by six-tenths of one vote; the freight rate victories won by the state; advent of air mail to North Dakota; the series of trials growing from Fargo's liquor truck deal; highway and mill commission appointments; the Garrison bridge and reapportionment battles in the state legislature.

There was little difference of opinion in the placing of the first four stories while the last six places were widely scattered, depending on the local import of the many good stories which broke during the last year.

NEWPORT, R. I.
NEWS

JAN 11 1932

SOUTHERN WOMEN AND LYNCHING.

The Association of Southern Women for Prevention of Lynching is the remarkable name of a remarkable organization which is now more than a year old, and has made history in the South.

The Association numbers some distinguished Southern women in it membership, and is going about its work with an intelligence and ability that have always marked the activities of women below Mason and Dixon's line. It will be recalled, in this connection, that the women of the Confederacy were heroic and hard-working and marvelously self-sacrificing.

"The lynch-murderer is not 'the protector of Southern womanhood' as he almost invariably asserts," is a significant declaration of this organization, as it goes about its self-imposed task of arousing the people of the South to a realization of the horrors of this great crime against humanity.

"Lynching is not alone the crime of ignorant an irresponsible mobs; every citizen who condones it, even by his silence must accept a share of its guilt," is the broad statement made by the Southern women thus banded together to wipe out mob-rule.

The South is awake to the fact that lynching is a blot on that entire section, and Southern newspapers have done and are doing valuable work in building up anti-lynching sentiment and in supporting anti-ynch movsements. "The program of this woman's association," the San Antonio Express said recently, "has great possibilities. It embodies the principle underlying the Dyer Federal anti-lynching bill—which, notwithstanding the defeat of that measure, is sound doctrine—community responsibility for mob outrages. Surely there is no more effective way of creating the needful sentiment than by enlisting every community's women leaders in this movement.'

The banding together of the women of the South in an organization that denies that lynching is needful for their protection, that condemns mob-murder in toto, under any and all circumstances, that appeals to decency and tradition for the upholding of the law, is a long step forward, and undoubtedly had something to do with the reduction in lynchings the past year.

Oklahoma City, Okla.
OKLAHOMAN

JAN 10 1932

STATE WOMEN FORM ANTI-LYNCHING UNIT

Group Is Affiliated With South-Wide Order.

TULSA, Jan. 9.—(Special.)—Organization of an Oklahoma group of the Association for the Prevention of Lynching was perfected here Saturday at a meeting called by Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames, Atlanta, Ga., executive director.

The association, formed in 1922, now has in its membership club women and social leaders of 13 southern states, those most subject to racial outbreaks, according to Mrs. Ames.

Mrs. Walter Ferguson, Tulsa; Mrs. L. A. Sanders, Chickasha, and Mrs. Margaret Yost, Norman, are members of the parent group from Oklahoma. Mrs. Yost was named acting chairman for Oklahoma.

Purposes of the organization as set out by Mrs. Ames are primarily educational. She said Saturday that federated women's clubs, the pulpit and other agencies would carry the work forward.

MARION, IND.
CHRONICLE

AUG 5 - 1932

LYNCHING DEATH PAYMENT ASKED

Directors of the Malleable Employes Sick Benefit Association today were made defendants in a damage action brought by Martin Shipp, father of Thomas Shipp, colored, who was hanged here by a mob on the night of Aug. 7, 1930. The complaint in four paragraphs asks judgment for a total of $600.

Young Shipp was a member of th association at the time of his death and was in good standing by virtue of the payment of 15 cents each week for a period of more than 12 months, the complaint alleges. The association members, the complaint states were engaged in insuring lives of each other and of their co-partner, Thomas Shipp.

Payment of the $150 death benefit was refused on a section of the bylaws that provides that "no benefits will be paid for injuries received outside shop or in unlawful or immoral acts," according to the complaint. The plaintiff contends in his complaint that Shipp was not engaged in any unlawful or immoral act at the time of his death which occurred at the hands of a mob.

The complaint was prepared and filed by R. L. Bailey and R. L. Brokenburr, Indianapolis colored attorneys, who represented Herbert Cameron and Robert Sullivan, Marion colored youths, who were tried at Anderson on murder and automobile banditry charges.

Defendants in the action are Harvey Diehl, Arthur Parks, Arthur Dines, Edward Dehne, DeForest Warden, Edward Bishir and Charles Cochrane, all of whom are said to be directors of the Association.

New Yorker

JAN 2 1932

FOR OUR DISCOMFORT

THE Woollcott Prize for Understatement for 1931 is hereby formally awarded to the *Times* of Salisbury, Maryland, for its description of the proceedings which gave the village green an animated aspect on the night of December 4th, last. ~~A negro~~ named Matthew Williams (actuated, it has been guessed, by economic despair) had shot and killed his employer, one Daniel Elliott, a white man, and then had tried, inadequately, to shoot himself. Anyway, by some shot or other, he was blinded and was therefore lying bandaged in the local hospital when several citizens of Salisbury visited that insufficiently guarded institution, and, with a bedside manner al their own, threw the defenceless culprit out of the window. Then they picked him up and hauled him to the green where, in the presence of a thousand silent spectators, they hanged him to a tree. Finally, they carted his body out of town, sprinkled it with gasoline, and completed the ceremony of ashes to ashes. But not, according to the *Marylander and Herald* of Princess Anne, until after one member of the mob had acquired as souvenirs several of the dead man's toes.

In the Baltimore *Sun* of two days later, Edmund Duffy presented a Boardman Robinsonesque sketch of the dangling victim—a fine drawing turned into a great and blasting cartoon by the caption: "Maryland, My Maryland." And in the *Evening Sun* of the 7th and 14th, Henry Mencken issued broadsides which have lashed to fury certain dwellers on the Eastern Shore which he describes as "a region wherein there are no competent police, little save a simian self-seeking in public office, no apparent intelligence on the bench, and no courage and no decency in the local press." These broadsides are in themselves reminders to those who know Mr. Mencken only as the editor of the *Mercury* that he is also an alert, valuable, and active citizen of the Maryland Free State. And they make good reading for those of us who, when Mencken pounds his pulpit, feel just as moved to cry out "Amen! Amen!" from time to time as any bemused Baptist does when some preacher is vehemently expounding *his* religion.

But to get back to the prize-winning Salisbury *Times*. In its editorial sanctum they sought the *mot juste* for that night's work and decided to refer to it as "a demonstration."

□ □

Speaking of understatements, one reader has sent in the reminder that there is a pretty good one in the 22d chapter of Matthew, 23d verse.

□ □

And I have decided, after some thought, to classify as an understatement a phrase recently applied to me by the Schenectady *Gazette*. In sending me the clipping, a member of the Union faculty has been good enough to interpret it as a typographical error for "critic." However, what the *Gazette* actually says is that such and such an actor was lauded "by Alexander Woollcott, the cutie."

KANSAS CITY, MO.

STAR

JAN 1 1 1932

D 1931 LYNCHING [illegible] TEXAS.

te Takes Lead in South Towards Ending the Evil.

m the Houston Post-Dispatch.

Regrettable as was the occurrence Conroe recently, in which a Negro who had been condemned to the electric chair was released from jail, and later was found shot to death, there is ground for satisfaction in the discovery that the affair was not a lynching, and that Texas now has a good chance to point to another lynchless year.

Thus far in 1931 Texas has been free of mob violence resulting in death to anyone, and if in the few remaining days of the year no mob outbreak occurs, the state will be able to point again with pride to a white record, in respect to the lynching evil.

Progress is being made in suppressing lynching in the South, and Texas is taking the lead in the movement to eradicate the barbaric practice. In a former year, not so long ago, the state was able to report that not one case of lynching had occurred. That was a record of which all right thinking Texans were proud, and it is to be hoped devoutly that on January 1, 1932, Texans will be able to express again their pride that their state has not been the scene of a lynching in 1931.

Despite reactions in some years, the trend away from lynching is steady. A comparison of the records of mob murders in the last few years with the records of a period farther back will show a far smaller yearly average in the later period. Let the good work of educating public sentiment to condemn lynching go steadily on.

NEW YORK TIMES

JAN 2 4 1932

EASTERN SHORE TIRES OF FIGHTING MENCKEN

Battle of Epithets Brought On by Salisbury Lynching Begins to Wane.

BALTIMORE'S TRADE HIT

Chesapeake Folk Get Back at The Sun for Publishing Criticism by Canceling Orders.

VIRGINIANS DRAWN IN, TOO

Hard Names Called on Both Sides, While Original Cause of Row Is Forgotten.

By VIRGINIUS DABNEY.

Editorial Correspondence, THE NEW YORK TIMES

RICHMOND, Jan. 21.—One of the liveliest controversies of recent months, a controversy in which H. L. Mencken and The Baltimore Evening Sun have been arrayed against the citizenry and press of the eastern shore of Maryland and Virginia, is gradually simmering down, with all hands apparently tired of dipping their pens in vitriol, after some weeks devoted to hurling epithets back and forth across the Chesapeake.

The fun began when Mr. Mencken wrote an article for The Evening Sun on Dec. 7, three days after the lynching of a Negro at Salisbury, on the Maryland eastern shore, in which he took some ferocious wallops at the state of culture on the power portion of the Maryland shore. The blast contained such phrases as "poor white trash," "knavish politicians," "prehensile professional patriots and whooping soul-savers," "and Asatia for morons," and "simian self-seeking in public office," all of which he applied with gusto to the region and its inhabitants.

The reaction from beyond the Chesapeake was immediate and unmistakable. There was an instantaneous outburst of recrimination in the press, and Mr. Mencken and The Evening Sun were roundly scored. At the same time a large quantity of business with Baltimore houses was canceled by Salisbury business men—no less than $150,000 worth in one day, according to apparently reliable estimates.

Angry With Mr. Mencken.

An idea of the sort of thing which appeared in the newspapers of the lower Maryland shore concerning Mr. Mencken may be gleaned from the editorial columns of The Worcester Democrat, which opined that "Mencken's soul, if he has one, must have come from a hyena, a rattlesnake or a skunk," while The Cambridge Daily Banner made the discovery that Mencken is himself "a lyncher," since he once proposed to take William Jennings Bryan "to the top of the Washington Monument in Washington, disembowel him and hurl his remains into the Potomac." Meanwhile the two counties of Virginia's eastern shore had become greatly aroused over Mr. Mencken's statement in the same article that since the World War the lower Maryland shore has been "going downhill, mentally and morally" and "sliding out of Maryland and into the orbit of Arkansas and Tennessee, Mississippi and the more flea-bitten half of Virginia."

There was nothing to indicate that in referring to the "flea-bitten half of Virginia" Mr. Mencken had the two shore counties of Accomac and Northampton in mind, for they are the wealthiest agricultural counties in the Old Dominion and among the wealthiest in the United States, but the inhabitants leaped to the conclusion, nevertheless, that they were being insulted. Their newspapers rushed to the assault, The Northampton Times leading in the attack with the query: "What material distinction is there, socially or otherwise, between a flea-bitten Virginian and a lousy Baltimorean?"

As on the Maryland shore, there were, it is understood, cancellations of orders with Baltimore business houses and stickers appeared on automobiles with the legend: "I am an eastern shoreman and proud of it."

Fun for Mr. Mencken.

In the meantime Mr. Mencken was having the time of his life belaboring the Salisbury lynchers. His article in The Evening Sun of Dec. 7 was followed by another on Dec. 14, despite the cancellations which were coming in, and there was a third broadside on Dec. 21.

For more than a month after the appearance of his first article there was an almost continuous flood of protesting letters from the shore to the editor of The Evening Sun. The shoremen have long looked upon the wet and libertarian city of Baltimore with a decidedly fishy eye anyway, and the Menckenian gibes were more than they could stand. "I could not face my God if I should let such insults go unanswered," wrote one correspondent. "The men of the eastern shore are God-fearing, red-blooded men," wrote another.

As for the lynching itself, the authorities of Salisbury have been spending so much time in denunciation of Mr. Mencken and The Sun that they have neglected to bring the lynchers to justice. Nearly seven weeks have passed and no arrest has been made, although many of the participants in the crime are said to be known. Governor Ritchie and Attorney General Preston Lane have done all they are empowered to do under the State Constitution. If no member of the mob is brought to trial, the responsibility will lie at the door of the Salisbury authorities.

LOWELL, MASS.

COURIER-CITIZEN

SEP 2 7 1932

LYNCHING IN PRIVATE?

Virginia offers something novel in the way of lynching—the death of an alleged criminal under conditions which leave it doubtful whether or not he was the victim of mob violence. The culminating feature of the disgrace in lynchings is usually the fact that the deed is committed in the open, that the mob leaders are known to a considerable number of people—probably to law-abiding citizens as well as to participants in the crime—and yet no legal evidence can be obtained to bring the murderers to justice. In Warren county, Virginia, however, the body of the Negro who was accused of an attack on his employers was found hanging to a tree and partly burned. The indications certainly point to a lynching; but if there was such a crime, it was not accompanied by the usual publicity. It seems probable that some of the men who were pursuing him with the legitimate original purpose of securing his arrest, found him and decided to hang him on the spot instead of delivering him over to the law. This would of course be a lynching, but it may not go into the record as such in the lack of definite proof or the manner in which the Negro's death occurred. Virginia's lynching record was never so bad as that of most of the other southern states and of late years it has been almost spotless. It would be charitable and also in a way just to the reputation of Virginia as a law-abiding state to accept the expressed opinion of the county officers that the fugitive committed suicide when his pursuers were close upon him.

Lynchings - 1932 & Discussions

White Press. (Northern)

3635

MESSENGER

Los Angeles, Cal.

OCT 28 1932

LYNCHING JUDGES

We know little concerning the merits of the case against these three judges . . . As to the actual wrong-doing none of the details of their cases made public appears conclusive. They seem, at this distance, to be as much sinned against as sinning. The slumbering resentment against the receivership racket in Los Angeles County came suddenly to a climax at a time when they seemed most available as victims.

Whether or not these three men ought to be removed from their high positions of trust may be a matter for debate. But we do not believe there are two sides to the question whether the judiciary is to be subject to recall. If there has been a single instance . . . that the recall has been intelligently used, it has not come to our notice. Mostly that weapon is helpful to none but politicians who wish to revenge themselves . . . or have other designs which a recall election will promote.

The recall, as applied to public officials other than the courts may have a certain justification . . . we think its use is more harmful than helpful . . . an unwarranted expense to the taxpayer . . . But the men who dispense justice in the courts of California ought never be subject to recall. They ought to be above and beyond the provision of that law. There ought to be no threat which could sway or influence a judicial officer in the performance of his duties except such as the law would provide in the ordinary routine way through judicial processes. Malfeasance in office on the part of the judge is readily punishable and his removal easily achieved by impeachment proceedings. The law thus provides a way to deal with malefactors on the bench.

The recall weapon is merely the rope constantly about the judge's neck with which he may be dragged from his high position if a group sufficiently large and sufficiently active desires to do so. It amounts in effect to the recall of judicial decisions. It places the judge at the mercy of litigants who might be able to command sufficient resources and influences to punish him by a recall election if he fails to see eye to eye with them in court.

The recall, with reference to these judges, is an unnecessary proceeding. If they are known to be sufficiently guilty as to merit such drastic action, the way to punish them is through the routine process the law provides. That it is not sufficient is evidenced by the division of opinion in Los Angeles and the resort to the recall machinery in a situation of that character adequately illustrates its dangerous possibilities. Sponsors for the recall obviously hoped thereby to do what they could not do in some other way.

How much of the hue and cry against these judges was impelled by those who have judicial ambitions of their own it is impossible at this distance to determine. But the whole incident bears the aspect of the application of lynch law to the bench. It ought not to occur.

—San Bernardino Telegram, Oct. 8, 1932.

Times

12-17-32

New York

32 LYNCHED IN LAST YEAR.

Negro Rights League Reports Rise in Number Throughout Country.

Lynch law brought death to thirty-seven persons in the last year in the United States and its possessions, according to a statement made yesterday by the League of Struggle for Negro Rights, which receives support from the Communist party of America. The estimate, it was said, was based primarily on newspaper reports in southern States.

Lynching increased in 1932, the report declares, and a general tendency on the part of public officials to conceal information in such cases was noted.

A list of thirty-seven victims, purporting to show the known deaths due to lynch law, accompanied the statement. Of these, twenty-three met death from bullets; eight were hanged, two were shot and then drowned, one was beaten and drowned and two were beaten to death. Only two in the list were white men.

NEWARK, O.
Advocate and American Tribune

DEC 8 1932

FIGHTING LYNCHING EVIL.

The effort to have ~~the coming~~ year pass without one single state in the south being disgraced by a lynching is one particularly worthy of the southern women who are banded together to promote its achievement. Lynching has not been confined to the south, but the record of that section has been particularly unenviable. It is true that recent years have shown a marked improvement in a generally diminished average of mob killings as compared with the previous period. But rightfully there ought to be no let up until public opinion everywhere makes toleration of this crime impossible.

Activities of southerners themselves in working for the creation of such a public opinion affords the best chances of realization of the aim. Thus a commission composed of educators, editors and others whose peculiar duty is the moulding of public opinion, has been for some time engaged in an investigation of the causes leading to such outrages and the best means of removing them. They have also been active in creating sentiment for a uniform anti-lynching law in the various states of the south.

The work of women representing various faiths and bringing to bear for the eradication of the evil not only the influence of religion, but the forces organized to promote high civic educational and welfare purposes is a potent reinforcement of such endeavor.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.
EAGLE

DEC 29 1932

Less Lynching.

Nine Negroes were lynched ~~this~~ year, according to the figures from the Association for the Advancement of Colored People; the association notes that two whites also were lynched. That makes eleven in all, which is three less than the total for 1931. The diminution is a good sign in a Presidential year; for in some past Presidential years, either owing to political excitement or to the need to promote it, lynchings have been above the prevailing level.

No doubt a number of influences have combined to discourage the lynching habit. One of them has been the removal of Negroes from sections where they found conditions oppressive to industrial sections where they were welcome. That has ceased since the decline in the demand for workers. Yet it lasted long enough to persuade whites in some of the sections with large colored populations that the whites would themselves lose if the Negroes were driven away.

The education of Negroes has done something to protect them; the education of poor whites perhaps quite as much. Among the influences not to be overlooked has been the absence of serious race riots between whites and colored folk. Race riots are little else than wholesale lynchings. They became unpopular after the Negroes in one or two instances had taken to carrying the shooting into white streets. The race-rioting custom has declined and the rural districts take their example more or less from the towns.

More might have been done by authority and by public opinion to put an end to lynching. As matters go, it seems quite likely to die down of itself, chiefly or largely because the colored people have become better able to take care of themselves.

MARION, O.
STAR

DEC 31 1932

Mob Law.

One of the more interesting year-end reports is that on lynching in the United States. Americans who use the prevalence of mob law as a measure of social orderliness are pleased to know that the total of 11 lynchings during 1932 comes within one of being as low as any total recorded since 1885.

The best record established is that of 1929, when 10 lynchings were recorded. But trends are not true in a short view. In 1924 there was a drop to 16 from 33 the preceding year. In 1925, the total increased one, to 17 lynchings for that year. It looked like improvement.

But in 1926 it jumped back to 30, destroying the continuity of the trend. In 1927 it receded to 16, in 1928 to 11, and in 1929 to 10, but the continuity was broken again by a jump to 21. In 1931 there were 14 lynchings, three more than this year.

Florida, among the states, leads the list of dishonor with two instances of mob law. In the list of states with one apiece, Ohio stands out conspicuously. Others are Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia.

There can be no direct fight against lynching, for the understandable reason that it is spontaneous. Improvement can be achieved only by diligent effort to remove the points of friction and backwardness from which mob law is generated. It is slow work, but material progress has been made in the last half century. In 1895, more than 250 persons were denied the right to be heard in court. Before 1902, the total dropped below 100 only once. It was not until 1914 that it went below 50, and not until 1924 that it was less than 25.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
NEWS

DEC 26 1932

THE ANTI-LYNCHING LAW

What was left of Indiana's anti-lynching law was held unconstitutional by Judge T. W. Hutchinson, of the Clay circuit court, who ruled that the title was not sufficiently comprehensive to cover the subject matter. As published in the revised statutes the title reads: "An act concerning lynching, providing for the removal and reinstatement of county sheriffs having custody of persons lynched, authorizing the maintenance of actions for damages sustained as the result thereof, and prescribing penalties for inflicting damage or injury on others in certain cases without authority of law."

This law, providing that the Governor could remove from office a sheriff who had failed to prevent a lynching, defining as a mob any collection of five or more persons bent upon unlawful missions, and setting forth how surviving heirs or injured persons could institute damage suits by reason of the loss of life through lynching, personal injuries or damage to property, was enacted in 1931. It was an outgrowth of lynchings at Marion, where the state — through the attorney-general — made an extensive investigation.

Troubles in the coal mining districts caused miners who had been assaulted to file damage claims against the counties in which they resided. The special session repealed three sections of the act, striking out the references to damage claims, but retaining the sections directed against sheriffs who failed to protect prisoners. There is an intimation that the defendants in the Clay county cases will appeal, but their right to collect damages for such personal injuries as they suffered seems to have been struck out by the action of the special legislative session.

NEW YORK TIMES

DEC 17 1932

37 LYNCHED IN LAST YEAR.

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PHILADELPHIA, PA.
MORNING PUBLIC LEDGER

DEC 29 1932

FEWER LYNCHINGS

THE list of lynchings in the United States this year, numbering eleven, shows only a slight reduction compared with 1931, when fourteen were recorded. But there were twenty-one in 1930. To realize how great has been the improvement over the old bad record it is necessary to glance back to 1922, when there were fifty-seven, or to 1921, when there were sixty-four lynchings. There were 100 in 1908 and 255 in 1892.

Florida has had two lynchings this year. The others were in Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia. As in recent years, crimes against women figured to a minor extent. All but two of the victims were Negroes. Inter-racial committees have done much in Georgia, Arkansas and some other Southern States to encourage more reliance on the law to punish offenses. And in several instances public officials this year, by their determination, have prevented mobs from taking the law into their own hands.

ALBANY, N. Y.
NEWS

DEC 31 1932

Lynching

THE annual compilation of lynching statistics shows a decrease of three in 1932 from the preceding year. In 1931 there were 14 lynchings and in 1932 the total was 11. That is encouraging, particularly so far as the South is concerned, since two states that hitherto have not recorded lynchings figured in the total this year. Ohio and Kansas each had a lynching, so without these the total would have been 9. Victims of lynching included two white men. The others were Negroes. The movement against lynching has accomplished something in Southern states. It is regrettable that mob law should likewise have prevailed in Kansas and in Ohio.

Before we can cast a stone at other states, however, we would best consider our own state. While no lynching was recorded, we have some stains on our own escutcheon. Racketeering and gangster murders have been common. In some places we have permitted racketeering to flourish. Juries have not always done their duty. There is more than one form of lynching.

CANTON, O.
REPOSITORY

DEC 30 1932

Mob Law

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There can be no direct fight against lynching for the understandable reason that it is spontaneous. Improvement can be achieved only by diligent effort to remove the points of friction and backwardness from which mob law is generated. It is slow work, but material progress has been made in the last half century. In 1895, more than 250 persons were denied the right to be heard in court. Before 1902, the total dropped below 100 only once. It was not until 1914 that it went below 50, and not until 1924 that it was less than 25.

White Press, (Northern.)

3636

Lynchings-1932

Discussions.

GILROY, CAL.
EVE. DISPATCH
MAY 18 1932

LAWLESSNESS NEVER JUSTIFIABLE

The other day in one of our mountain counties of California, four alleged Communists were captured by a local post of veterans, who tarred and feathered the anarchists and drove them out of town.

No doubt the presence of the agitators was most objectionable and that they should be forced to leave town raises little adverse comment, but the tarring and feathering was a mistake. It was lawlessness, and lawlessness is never to be commended, especially should it be avoided by those whom the community has the right to look upon as the greatest protectors and sustainers of the law.

The South is just awakening to the many evils that flow from lynching and its leading newspapers are condemning the practice in unmeasured terms. Do not let us make the mistake of reviving the same spirit, even if it does not go to the same extremes here in the West.

One of the great dangers that inevitably flows from any lawless procedure is that once the community gets accustomed to settled objectionable acts, by a resort to private violence it very rarely knows where to stop and as in the South, which started with lynching for an offense which would justify that extremity if anything would, gradually spread until colored men were lynched for being insolent or rude, to white men, which, of course, was utterly unjustifiable.

Of course, running men out of a community does not remove the evil except locally. Some other community must suffer their objectionable presence. And it is no more justifiable for a community to dump its moral garbage on its neighbors, than it is for the individual to throw the contents of his garbage can over his neighbor's back fence.

Let us make it clear to agitators that they are not wanted and must either behave or get out, but let us do it by legal means and not by employing some unlawful method of ridding the community of them.

NEW YORK SUN
MAY 31 1932

Negroes Hard Hit by Slump

But Conditions Have Failed to Aggravate Race Feeling in South.

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ATLANTA, May 31.—The course of the Southern Negro in the economic depression—wherein thousands of whites have looked with natural self-interest upon jobs held by Negroes—has been marked by striking lack of race friction. some leaders of the two races agree.

Dr. Will W. Alexander, executive director of the Interracial Relations Commission, with headquarters here, made a survey of the Southern States, and reported he and Negro leaders have been "amazed" by their findings.

Negro tennant farmers, especially, Dr. Alexander said, have felt the full effect of the depression, particularly in the matter of the bare necessities of life.

Farm Tenants Food Minded.

"One very beneficial result," he said, "has been to make both the Negro and the white tenant farmer much more 'food-minded' than he ever could have been made before. Land owners in many sections have been forced to curtail, and in some cases abolish, credits heretofore available to their tenants.

"This is shown by rural Negroes going into the cities for food, plainly indicating a 'crowding' off' from farms. Some owners of tenant farms however, have kept their Negroes at a great sacrifice. But all have had an increased interest in foodstuffs.

"Another indication of Negro want was observed recently at a flour dispensary in the Alabama county where Tuskegee Institute is located. In one day, 500, approximately, applied for aid, yet a similar depot for whites was almost idle."

In cities, Dr. Alexander said, the percentage of Negroes seeking aid frequently is twice the percentage of Negro population in the town. The plight of the city Negro, already suffering from "technological unemployment," he said, has been intensified by the depression.

Few Outbreaks.

There have been isolated instances of violent outbreaks by whites seeking jobs of Negroes, such as at Jackson, Miss.; Vicksburg, Miss., and Jacksonville Fla. The known death list stands at five, all at Vicksburg. All but two of the leading hotels in Atlanta have supplanted Negro bellhops by whites.

"The amazing thing," Dr. Alexander said, "is that for some reason this depression has not aggravated racial relations. Lynching figures for the year are way down below recent years.

"A helpful factor, too, is the indifference and skepticism of the Negroes in their reaction to communist agitators, and the companion lack of outward resentment by Southern whites. It means, I think, that the Negro is 'sold' on the existing economic order, and wants none of Communism."

LOWELL, MASS.
COURIER-CITIZEN
JUN 13 1932

THE KENTUCKY LYNCHING.

Undoubtedly lynching in nearly every case is supported by a strong, and in most cases a prevailing, local sentiment. If this were not so, it would not be easy to collect a mob and for the perpetrators of the crime to escape subsequent detection. Yet it could at least be expected that the courts and the officers who are sworn to enforce the law would put forth every possible effort to secure the punishment of the mob leaders. They do not always show a proper amount of zeal, however, and the charge of a Kentucky judge to a grand jury is rather disheartening. This Circuit judge is reported to have said of the recent lynching of Walter Merrick: "It is a serious thing, but no more serious than violating any other law." In other words: "Go ahead and do your duty; but lynching is nothing to get excited about!"

It is to be feared that Kentucky, a state that has not of late been one of the lynching states, is slipping. The fact seems to be that there has been within the past two or three years a growing tendency in Kentucky to encourage mob action. This has been manifested in the attitude which has been taken toward various bands of intrusive coal investigators, coming from afar. These have been told to stay out, before they have indulged in any illegal action, or delivered any incendiary speeches; and, when they have not been violently expelled, they have been sent away on the ground that the authorities "could not undertake to protect them from mobs."

This general admission that mobs are above the law in Kentucky may well have encouraged lawlessness and given assurance to lynchers that officials would do nothing to run them down. Such an expression from a judge as that quoted will lead them to suppose that they have little to fear from the courts, even if they should be arrested. There has always been considerable disorder in the rude mountain regions of Kentucky; but Caldwell county, where this lynching occurred, is in quite a different section, and it is about time for Kentuckians to realize that the fair fame of their state is besmirched by lawlessness which is no longer localized.

REVIEW
Kiowa Colo.
JUN 3 1932

LYNCHINGS IN 1931

Preliminary reports indicate that only 13 persons were lynched in the U. S. in 1931, as compared with 30 in 1930 and 10 in 1929. The record of last year rather upsets the theory expressed by some a year ago to the effect that the marked increase in lynchings in 1930 was in some way due to the depression.

Georgia, with a record of more lynchings than any other state during the last 50 years, was entirely free from mob violence last year.

States which have had no lynchings since 1889 are Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Rhode Island and Connecticut. Also there has been none in the District of Columbia. It is rather odd that the entire New England group has been immune from lynch law for such a long period.

Lynchings in the United States reached their most frightful total in 1892, when no less than 255 persons (100 whites and 155 negroes) met death at the hands of mobs.

According to the best available records, 4330 persons have been lynched since 1885. It is likely that several hundred of these victims were innocent of the crimes for which they were killed. This is a ghastly record, but it is encouraging to note a marked decrease in mob crimes in recent years.—Ex.

PORTLAND, ME.
EVE. NEWS

JUN 4 1932

The Impeachment of Judge Lynch

From The Virginia Quarterly (April, '32)

George Fort Milton
Editor of the "Chattanooga News"

Condensed by Readers Digest

Of all present Southern social phenomena, the tendency to resort to lynch law for the punishment of alleged crimes of Negro offenders is the most dangerous and the most inexcusable. Whenever a lynching has occurred, one can say definitely: The crust of civilization has given way to the blind anger of the animal.

To be sure, lynchings are a long-standing evil in these United States. In one sense, they reflect the frontier mind. The frontier qualities of self-sufficing individual initiative, decision, and courage made our forefathers impatient of the rule of law, and led them to execute immediate vengeance upon wrongdoers. Such undoubtedly was the intellectual bottoming of the rule of lynch law. Even in recent years, many specious excuses have been advanced in its defense, the most plausible of which is that immediate infliction of summary and extreme punishment upon Negroes who assault white women is necessary to restrain the Negro race from a carnival of rape.

During the '80's and '90's, more than 100 lynchings occurred each year. In 1889, for example, 176 persons were summarily done to death by mobs. But in that year almost as many whites as Negroes died by the noose and torch. There was not a year from 1889 until 1901 in which the number of lynchings went beneath the 100 mark. But the number of white men thus dealt with decreased sharply, and by the turn of the century, nearly all lynchings were of the lowly sons of Ham. In 1901, there were 135 lynchings, of whom 107 were Negroes. The next year, the number dropped slightly beneath the 100 mark, in 1903 it returned to 103, and remained beneath that figure until 1908, when it reached 100 again. From 1908 until 1930, the annual number of lynchings was on the wane. There were minor spurts, as in 1919, that post-war year of liberated passions, when 83 were lynched. But in 1920 the decrease began again, and in 1929 the figure reached the low point of ten.

With 1930, however, there came a sudden upward surge of these breaches of civilized society. The record for that year disclosed as many deaths by mob violence as had occurred in the two preceding years combined. What was the meaning of this sudden reversal of the recent trend? What was behind this new outburst of jungle law?

Among the groups viewing the matter with the greatest concern was the Commission on Interracial Cooperation, that splendid enterprise in the building of better relationship between white men and black men in America. Patient inquiry into the psychology of mobs and the techniques of lynchings, it was thought, might reveal some common threads in the lynching pattern, and thus make it easier to plan effective preventive steps. Accordingly, a special Southern Commission on the Study of Lynchings was appointed, of which I became chairman.

The Commission's report, made in the fall of 1931, affords probably the most careful analytical record of lynchings which has yet been made. Let me summarize its main conclusions:

1. Two of the 21 persons lynched in 1930 were certainly innocent, and 11 others possibly so.

2. Fewer than one-fourth of the persons lynched since 1890 have been accused of attacks upon white women.

3. There is a direct relation between lack of education, low economic status, and prevalence of lynching.

"The popular opinion," the report emphasized, "that most lynchings are for the punishment of crimes against women is wide of the fact. Of 3,693 persons lynched during the 41 years ending with 1929, only 23 per cent were accused of actual or attempted crimes against women."

Those who apologize for lynching as a necessary defense of womanhood, the report pointed out, "in reality doubly betray the Southern woman, first, in making her danger greater by exaggerating her helplessness, and second, by undermining the authority of police and courts, which are her legitimate protectors."

To any student of the structure of Southern society, there is a particular interest in the possible relation between economic circumstance and lynching frequency. The Commission's investigators found evidence of a rather extraordinary type to indicate the greater likelihood of lynchings in communities living upon the fringe of hunger and heartbreak. People spiritually as well as economically under-privileged seemed quite ready to illuminate their drab, narrow, fruitless lives by the excitements and emotional releases of burning torch and shrieking victim. The point is well illustrated by case reports of the Commission staff upon several Georgia lynchings, the facts whereof are somewhat typical of the general community pattern of places where lynchings occurred.

A Negro named George Grant was shot to death in a cell in the county jail at Darien, September 8, 1930. For a long series of years, Darien had declined as a port, rice growing had been made impossible by competition of the Louisiana rice lands, saw-milling had waned, and in many other ways the county's economic structure had been progressively breaking down.

James Irwin paid the final price of mob law at Ocilla, on January 31, 1930. The average per capita production of the inhabitants of Irwin County was only 45 per cent of that of Georgia as a whole. Bank deposits in 1929 were but $33.45 per inhabitant. In that year, there were only seven income tax returns in the entire county.

The Commission's investigators gave this picture as the background of another lynching. "The poor whites of Montgomery and surrounding counties are poor indeed. The Klan, which they accepted as a way out, has failed them; cotton is cheap; there are no prosperous cities to run off to at will. Mothers with sunken chests and practically no teeth; little babies in arms with scabs on their heads; men, women, and children with dirty clothes and unkept persons seething fatalism and pessimism are to be seen on every hand."

Not all the communities which were the scenes of lynching represent such intellectual, social, and economic poverty as was found in those just described. But in almost every instance studied, investigators called attention to the existence of a large group of ignorant, emotionally directed, one might say almost criminally-minded people, eager to burn and hang.

Obviously, solution of the lynching problem calls for two different types of action. First, the machinery of the law must be quickened and given life, both to prevent threatened lynchings and when they are not prevented, to bring due penalty upon their perpetrators. The legal section of the Commission expects to be able to make practical suggestions as to how the laws can be made operative and effective.

But the most important phase of the problem, after all, is the reorganization of the social viewpoint of the South, so that justice rather than hysteria, hate, and fear will control the adjudication of responsibility for crime. This involves a long and tedious process. It involves the betterment of economic conditions of our under-privileged areas and communities. It involves substituting satisfaction and contentment for hunger and heartbreak in such places as Ocilla and Darien. It involves re-education of our people.

BANGOR, ME.
COMMERCIAL

JUL 16 1932

DECREASING

The first half of the year brought five lynchings, two of the victims of mob violence being white and three colored. The record is the same as that of the first six months of last year and notes a very considerable gain over recent years. The number of mob murders would have been materially larger except for the preventive work of officials as, according to the records compiled, 13 attempted lynchings were baffled by the vigilance and determination of the authorities. For many years officials of the law, particularly in southern states, offered slight if any resistance to lynchers and the number of mob victims ran into the hundreds annually. There has grown up a different attitude on the part of the authorities, both in resistance and in seeking to bring punishment upon lynchers and would-be lynchers, an attitude that is largely responsible for the decrease in the number of victims of Judge Lynch.

ALBANY, N. Y.
NEWS

JUL 19 1932

The Lynching Record

THE lynching record for the first six months of the year in this country was just the same as in the same period last year. Five persons were lynched. This is a decided reduction in 10 years. In 1922 there were 30 lynchings in the first six months.

It would have been more encouraging if the number this year had been less than in the same period of last year but the significant and most reassuring phase of the report is that a new and very definite trend against lynching has developed. Particularly is there a stronger spirit on the part of authorities in preventing lynchings.

In the first half of the year officers prevented 13 lynchings, sometimes by hiding prisoners away and sometimes by battling successfully against mobs. There has also been indication of determination to bring mob leaders to justice, where in earlier days officials were somewhat inclined not to attempt to apprehend persons responsible for lynchings.

It is notable also that in some Southern states women have organized to discourage lynchings and in Georgia one such organization has declared that lynching is a greater menace than the crimes for which Negroes have been lynched. Eventually this crime may be virtually eradicated. There is reason for congratulation that more attention is being paid to preventing lynchings.

SCRANTON, PA.
TIMES

DEC 2 1932

A Lynchless South.

The very latest listing among the National Don't Blow Out the Gas Weeks, or the National Week Against Bendable Pie Crust, or all the other very special weeks and months and years that have come to grace our calendar is "A Lynchless South In 1933." It is the slogan adopted by the Association of Southern Women For the Prevention of Mob Violence.

Seven thousand women, coming from 1,300 towns in 575 counties below the Mason-Dixon line, are banded together in the association which would protect the lawless from the fury of the mobs so that the mercies and justices of the law may function. Undoubtedly the women organized in this movement are sincerely working toward a good end and they feel encouraged with the report that up to Nov. 19 of this year there had been only six mob murders in the United States. At this rate there is the probability that the all-time low record for lynchings set in 1929—when ten persons were done to death by extra-legal means—will be excelled this year. There have been no lynchings in Mississippi for more than a year. And this state, with the largest negro population, long led the list in mob murders. The only thing we wonder at is why the women folk stop at 1933 with their lynchless south program.

Lynchings-1932 & Discussions.

White Press, (Northern.)

3637

DETROIT, MICH.
NEWS

JUL 24 1932

Southern Lynchings.

To the Editor: I have been reading in the papers of how a twenty-two-year-old prisoner was tortured to death by two guards in the prison camp at Raiford, Florida.

Although I am a member of a race which is considered of minor importance in the program of our United States, I am proud to call myself an American, and like all true Americans I fell that the acts of torture committed by two Southern officials are indeed disgraceful and shameful to a country which is considered civilized — to a country which fought four years for a high ideal.

I am taking this time to remind the American public that these acts of torture are nothing new. The unfortunate Southern Negro has long been a victim of merciless treatment, whether imprisoned or free. He has been subjected to all forms of violation. Yet the American press has said nothing, or at the most very little, about this Southern Negroes have been lynched for crimes they did not commit; they have been burned alive by bloodthirsty mobs of white men and women. Their women have been violated. They have, in many instances, been forced to flee from their homes; they have been hunted and shot down like savage animals And yet the American press that prides itself on its outspokenness and its passion for liberty and justice has remained practically silent WHY? Is it afraid to print the WHOLE truth?

Black men have been dragged through the streets of Southern towns and horribly mutilated. They have been put into jail then taken out and put to death without even the semblance of a trial by jury. But the newspapers that have power and money behind them and could do much to stamp out such evils have sat supinely by.

Now it is not a group of Southern Negroes being mercilessly tortured by men who are a disgrace to the white race. It is not now a black convict being inhumanly treated and so the American newspaper is indignant. It is exposing prison torture so far as it concerns white convicts, and its editorials are pleading for justice. Justice! Is there very much of it left in this "land of the free" for him who is farthest down economically, socially, and politically?

Is there not one American newspaper that will voice a protest against the injustice done the Southern Negro? Is there not one that will remember that black men, too, gave their lives for Democracy? Is there not one that will expose the barbarism, of the deep South? The Afro-American papers are doing so in part, but unfortunately they are not powerful enough to disturb the American conscience.

American press, stop calling yourself an advocate of freedom and an upholder of the Constitution if you cannot, or will not, throw the limelight on all forms of injustice.

ROBERT EARL HAYDEN.

FT. WAYNE, IND.
JOURNAL GAZETTE

SEP 21 1932

Arkansas Lynching

Arkansas has just furnished the latest example of race hatred manifesting itself in mob ferocity. At Crossett, in that state, a crowd of about five hundred white men dragged a negro from the mayor's office, where the colored man had sought refuge, and hanged him in the yard of the jail.

The detail signalizing this monstrous affair is that the negro slain by the mob was not guilty of the crime which is held to justify summary vengeance. He had assaulted no white woman. Arrested upon charges that he had committed a petty theft, the negro attacked the deputy sheriff who served the warrant and slashed him with a razor. That was a grave offense, to be sure, but scarcely to be reckoned a crime to justify an uprising of a countryside and a brutal lynching.

It apparently was not the crime but the color of the criminal that provoked this mob outrage. In that view the lynching can be viewed only as the more outrageous and also as adding somewhat to discouragement that mob law eventually can be banished from a country where the machinery of justice is convenient on every hand. The possibility is, of course, that the courts in that region where the lynching took place have been like too many courts in too many other parts of the country. When justice lags or is presented in even worse lights, mob law may become the resort. No detail of the shocking incident in Arkansas as reported by the press indicates that the mob had even that very flimsy pretext for its ruthless murder of a negro whose crime quite certainly was not of capital grade.

With a recent double lynching in a rge city of Indiana to reflect upon, no citizen of this state is qualified to say anything in derogation of Arkansas. But the lynching in that state, as would be the fact no matter where its scene might be, is by so much discouraging. The statistics now and then are such as to nurture some confidence that this country will get over that social distemper, but the backsets occur now and then.

OAKLAND, CAL.
POST ENQUIRER

SEP 10 1932

A TYPICAL MOB—

In Tennessee

Down in Tennessee, deep in the old south where chivalry and courage were supposed to reside, a mob tried to lynch two Negro girls. In this case mob action can hardly be explained away as a necessary defense of white women's honor.

But the sheriff was not the complacent tool of the mob.

He saved his prisoners from the mob, asked for a detachment of armed soldiers, and remained in control of the situation. The soldiers arrived, and although the mob outnumbered them by at least 20 to 1, the soldiers had no trouble in breaking up the mob.

As Mark Twain remarked in Huckleberry Finn, few organisms are more cowardly or despicable than a mob. This mob, threatening the lives of two girls and then scattering when a few really determined soldiers approached, was probably a typical mob.

It is a national disgrace that mob action has not been wiped out long ago by federal laws. State laws, administered by local politicians usually in sympathy with the mob, are ineffective. A federal law covering mob action, and backed by rigorous penalties, would undoubtedly remove from civilization in the United States a dark stain which all other civilized nations look upon with horror.

DES MOINES, IA.
REGISTER

SEP 15 193

"THE LYNCH SPIRIT CAN BE CHECKED.

Not so many years ago, a Tennessee sheriff whose jail was about to be mobbed by lynchers always managed to go on a picnic or slip out to see a man about a surrey.

In some areas, at least, those times have changed. Several hundred persons drew up to the Wilson county courthouse in that state the other day, bent on "getting" five Negroes accused of shooting county officers. Sheriff Climer hurried the three Negro men off to a neighboring county, warned the mob not to approach the two women prisoners, and then called for national guardsmen to get rid of the crowd.

Such instances as these adequately demonstrate that a little intelligence and backbone on the part of law enforcement officials is all that is necessary to cower a hare-brained mob and maintain order and justice. It is doubtful whether the average mob—even a lynching mob in Tennessee—represents as high as 10 per cent of the people. And obviously it represents not one minute particle of the good sense inherent in almost any American community."

As enlightened as this nation is, there is no longer excuse for the tolerance of mob violence anywhere. If sheriffs and police officials in some places are still under a misapprehension as to what constitutes real public opinion, it is high time the voters demonstrated the distinction between that and mob clamor for them.

Catholic Universe
Bulletin
Cleveland, O.

SEP 16 1932

Can Lynching Be Stopped?

IF an examination of conscience is beneficial to individuals there is no valid reason why it shouldn't be helpful to nations. There are several major points over which America might reflect with seeming benefit to her national soul. One of these undoubtedly is the curse of lynching which has resolved itself into a problem that has hitherto been insoluble.

The unquestioned existence of mob law in certain sections of the country does not paint a pretty picture on the canvas of our communal, every-day life. Making due allowance for the provocative nature of certain types that unleash immediately man's passion for revenge, it is high time that civilized America awake to the fact that the penalty will be exacted by due process of law.

A previous murder, no matter how shocking, can never justify lynching simply because two wrongs never make a right. If the opposite pragmatic philosophy has taken roots in particular communities it is due to the lethargic methods of the constituted authorities who are too weak to assert a commanding leadership in initiating and perfecting reforms.

The lynching evil is perhaps the severest indictment of the habitual American tendency to select second rate men as national and state standard bearers. There appears to be an innate fear on the part of politicians to allow the people to vote for strong characters; professional politicians know they could not control them and the people suffer the consequences.

The results of convention after convention clearly indicate this, particularly in state affairs. We are glad to note that there are honorable exceptions. When men of principle become our constituted leaders it is possible to wipe out abuses. Factual experiences prove this.

For instance, there has not been a lynching in Georgia since 1926. Lynching had gone on there simply because lynchers felt they enjoyed a special immunity. In that year a fearless judge, the Hon. H. D. Reed, sentenced the ring leader in a lynching-bee to life imprisonment and six of his aides to shorter terms. Since rioting Georgians have seen the teeth in the law they have not chosen to be bitten.

In 1928 the General Assembly of Virginia enacted an Anti-lyching Law. No lynchings have occurred in that commonwealth since. Other states have followed this admirable example.

It is obvious, then, that lynching can be stopped if we have men in our Governors' chairs. Men with intestinal fortitude. We, the voters, can put them there. Why not do it?

DAYTON, O.
NEWS

SEP 9 1932

Third Degree Again

There were 25 lynchings in Illinois during the 41 years from 1889 to 1930, the majority of them in the earlier years of this period. The record of that state as compared with others, where lynchings have been recorded in hundreds, is very good. Yet Pekin, an Illinois community, the other day threatened to make another entry on the dark page. The episode serves to emphasize the case which instigated it. The prisoner at whom violence might have been directed was not the usual criminal, but a deputy sheriff accused of murdering one of his charges.

Martin Virant, a coal miner who bore the reputation of being industrious and peaceable, was supposedly a witness to a saloon brawl killing. He surrendered voluntarily as soon as he learned that he was wanted for such testimony as he could give. Awaiting appearance before a coroner's jury, he was held in a jail cell. Subsequently he testified to the jury that he had been viciously beaten by five deputies because he did not answer questions to suit them. This was part of his statement:

> They hit me on the head and I think they broke two ribs. They took turns working on me. Skinner knocked me down and kicked me and jumped on my neck. I couldn't talk because I didn't know anything. They kept kicking me and called me a damned liar. They pretty near killed me.

After these revelations, Virant was returned to his cell to be released within a few hours. Then the sheriff's office reported that he had hanged himself with his own belt. But the doctor who made the examination declares that death was not caused by hanging, but apparently "by a severe beating." The man was dead, he says, when strung up.

Coincident with the Illinois case, several former police officials go on trial at Mineola, N. Y., for a similar crime. The victim in that instance had a police record and was accused of brutally beating an aged in the course of a hold-up. The Pe tim was not even charged with a cri was held merely as a witness. The "third degree" there cannot be condoned with any observation that the victim got only what he had given to others, or that he was the sort of character who understands and is moved only by harsh methods. These at best are weak arguments for the practice of the third degree, and even they fail in such cases.

There cannot be much respect for law when the officers sworn to sustain it themselves adopt the lawless methods of the criminals whom they are expected to hold in check. The death of Virant calls for an investigation and, if warranted, a prosecution no less thorough than that which has prevailed thus far in the New York parallel.

FRESNO, CALIF.
BEE

AUG 29 1932

Lynching Declines

The Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching has been making an inquiry into lynching in the United States for the forty years ending with 1930.

Some of its findings go directly contrary to generally accepted opinions, especially in the South with regard to mob murder.

For example, of the victims of such mobs, only 23 per cent were charged with crimes against women, while more disturbing still is the declaration that

> there is real doubt of guilt of at least half of the victims of mob violence.

Analyzing the twenty-one lynchings of 1930, the commission finds one victim was slain

> solely because he had offended political opponents.

A Negro was shot to death to

> prevent his appearance as a witness in a serious court case against white men.

In five of the remaining cases it was very uncertain whether the mobs had secured the guilty individuals, and in six cases

> very serious doubt existed as to the commission of the offenses with which the lynched men were charged.

Of the 3,593 lynchings, which have occurred since 1889, the report shows over 40 per cent have occurred in the states of Georgia, Mississippi, Texas and Louisiana.

Yet a changing attitude is making itself felt even in these states. There were 255 lynchings in 1892 and ten in 1929.

The Georgia Association of Women for the Prevention of Lynching is but one of many similar groups organized to see that the law is impartially enforced in Dixie. In a recent statement this association declared that southern women

> wished no such protection of their virtue as is afforded by burning a black man on a pile of tarred logs.

TRENTON, N. J.
STATE GAZETTE

DEC 1 1932

A Lynchless South in 1933

The Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching has just closed in Atlanta, an annual convention made notable by the presentation of the most heartening report in fifty years. During the present year, only four lynchings have taken place in the South, and only six in the whole country. This is a low record for the half-century covered by written reports and its significance is increased by comparison with an average of forty for those fifty years.

The association, which includes more than seven thousand women, representing twelve States, has been one of the most effective agencies in the arousing of public sentiment throughout the South in opposition to this national disgrace, arising from the horrible fact that the brutal and capricious decrees of lynch law, executed by mobs animated by blood lust, have sent to sudden death 4,780 persons in the past fifty years.

The association announces that it will try to make 1933 the year of a "lynchless South." That this ambition may be realized is the fervent hope of every decent and humane citizen of the country.

Lynchings-1932

White Press, (Southern.)

3621

Discussions.

Ocilla, Ga., Star
Thursday, April 7, 1932

Pitiful Picture of Communities That Lynch Painted by Milton

ATHENS, Ga.,—George Fort Milton, editor of the Chattanooga News and prominent southern writer, in his speech before the Press Institute Friday, said that evidence had been found indicating a "greater likelihood of lynchings in communities living upon the fringe of hunger and of heartbreak."

He discussed reports of lynching investigators who pictured drab conditions existing in several Georgia communities in which lynchings have occurred in recent years. Investigators of the southern commission on the study of lynching, he said, illustrated the point in reports on several Georgia lynchings.

"A negro named George Grant was shot to death in a cell in the county jail at Darien, September 8, 1930," he said. The editor said that for a series of years, Darien had declined as a port, as a rice-growing center and "in many other ways the county's economic structure had been progressively breaking down.

"James Irwin paid the final price of mob law at Ocilla, on January 31, 1930," he continued, adding that bank deposits in Irwin county in 1929 were "but $33.45 per inhabitant, compared with $155.89 for Georgia as a whole." In that year Mr. Milton added, only seven income tax returns were made in the entire county.

"Aside from its winter resort qualities, the economic backwardness of Thomasville, the scene of the lynching of Willie Kirkland, was equally obvious. The agricultural methods of the county were almost primitive. 'Rural dwellers made a living,' this particular case study related, 'for the most part by tilling the soil with one-horse plows, briar hooks and long-handle hoes.' "

Ancient Farm Methods

Mr. Milton said the report said agricultural methods of "half a century ago" were followed and that "in many respects these rural dwellers have made but little advance since 1880. They produce but little more now than then. They live in poor houses, many of them mere hulls which do not stand upright. . . . They send their children to a one-teacher school now and then." he further quoted the report.

Discussing the death by violence in July, 1930, of "S. S. Mincey, a negro politician of considerable standing in his state," who was slain at his home near Ailey, in Montgomery county, Mr. Milton said:

"Mincey had irritated some local political applicants by his unwillingness to indorse them for appointment. There was some question as to whether death by violence was lynching or murder, but this does not interfere with the economic analysis.

"Montgomery county is a farming county, with only a small scattering of automobile mechanics, filling station attendants and professional men. The county is extremely poor. Its per capita production in 1924 was only $130.92, compared with the Georgia state average of $310.78. . . . Its tax valuation per inhabitant was only about half of that of the state as a whole."

Commission investigators, he said, gave the following picture of its popuation:

" 'The por whites of Montgomery and surrounding counties are poor indeed. The klan which they accepted as a way out has failed them; cotton is cheap; there is no prosperous city to run off to at will. They are emaciated looking, and they with their wives and children grow old while young.

" 'Mothers with sunken chests and practically no teeth, little babies in arms with scabs on their heads and running sores about their ears, boys chewing tobacco before they are half grown and girls staring and popping their gum, and men, women and children with dirty clothes and unkempt persons seething fatalism and pessimism are to be seen on every hand.

" 'Now and then an intoxicated fellow breaks the monotony, only to add to the sordidness of the picture. One Saturday afternoon at a little town between Ailey and Ocilla, a snaggled-toother white mother carrying a 6-moth-old baby with a stick of candy in it mouth, stumbled over a half-grown pig just out of a street wallow midway between the bank and the postoffice. There is much of the frontier in this part of Georgia, with the virility of the frontier lacking.'

Ignorant Emotionals

"Not all of the communities which were the scenes of lynching represent such intellectual, social and economic poverty as was found in those just described," said Mr. Milton. " but in almost every instance studied, investigators called attention to the existence of a large group of ignorant, emotionally directed, one might say almost criminally-minded people, eager to burn and hang."

The editor said solution of the lynching problem calls for quickening of the machinery of the law to prevent threatened lynchings and when they are not prevented, to bring "due penalty upon their perpetrators." He said the more important phase of the problem is to reorganize the social viewpoint of the south. "This," he added, "involves substituting satisfaction and contentment for hunger and heartbreak in such places as Ocilla, Ailey and Darien. It involves the re-education of our people."

A GRATUITOUS INSULT FROM AN IGNORAMUS

(Editorial)

The foregoing article published some weeks ago, and commented on widely but which the editor of this paper till now failed to see is a fair example of taking figures and proving whatever one wishes to prove.

It will be noted that Mr. Milton quoted most of what is published from the reports of some self appointed commission on lynching. But since Mr. Milton quoted this stuff, he adopts it as his own and should be held responsible for the statements just as if he had made them on his own responsibility.

So far as his criticism of Irwin county is concerned it is noted that he compares the per captia bank deposits of Irwin county with the per capita bank deposits of the state at large. He takes no account of the fact that the banking of almost half of the area of this county is done in towns of other counties near by. Tifton and Fitzgerald have always been more convenient to many of our citizens than has Ocilla. Their trading and their banking have always been done in those towns. No doubt if the true per capita bank deposits of Irwin county could be determined, it would compare favorably with that of any rural county in Georgia. But the ignoramus did not know that, of course. But why take the per capita wealth into consideration at all? What has that to do with the character of a people? Are poor people more likely to commit a lynching than are the well-to-do? That seems to be his reasoning. Is it sound? Would this kind of logic appeal to the common sense of the average man?

The great Chattanoga editor who came down into Georgia to straighten us up quoted the incident of the snaggletoothed white mother who stumbled over a pig in a town midway between Ailey and Ocilla. This ought to be somewhere in Telfair county, where if memory serves aright, there has not been a lynching in a long time, if ever. What has that to do with the subject? What is he driving at?

It is not the purpose of this paper to defend lynching. It has plainly said that people ought not to resort to that method of meting out justice; but it has said that as long as brutes commit the kind of crimes that was committed in Irwin county that caused the lyncing of James Irwin, nothing else can be expected. And that is just as true when such a crime is committed in Hamilton county Tennessee as it is when committed in Irwin county Georgia.

With what this paper presumes is the main purpose of Mr. Milton's address no fault can be found. But when he indicts (at a safe distance) the people of a whole county, or a whole section, he proclaims his ignorance of the subject.

What Mr. Milton did not know is that the people of Irwin county and Montgomery county (for the writer knows these people also) are as fine people as one would want to know. They are law abiding, and good citizens in every sense of the word. But Mr. Milton did not know—an ignoramus is one who does not know—and for that reason should not have spoken.

Involuntary Ally Of Lynchers

An editorial of The Baltimore Sun regretting the refusal of a Grand Jury to indict persons suspected of participating in a lynching in Salisbury and its suggestion "that the anti-lynching laws be amended, that it would greatly stimulate the lethargy of communities wherein a lynching Grand Jury refused to indict," received the hearty praise of "The Nation," of New York. It is doubtless well bestowed. In an editorial immediately preceding The Nation says: "Alabama, in short, no longer troubles itself with the unpleasant features provided by an oldtime lynching; but the result for seven young negroes accused of rape on the unsupported testimony of a white woman of highly questionable reputation, will, unless the Federal Supreme Court intervenes, be substantially the same."

Thus this New York weekly, pleading for better anti-lynching laws in Maryland, in the same column tries, in its own office, not only the seven negroes convicted in Scottsboro and acquits them, but convicts the law, the Circuit and the Supreme Courts of Alabama.

Ordinarily, The News and Courier would not consider this worth noticing, but it is interested in behalf of the Southern negroes. In Alabama and in most Southern States negroes are tried in white men's courts. Right or wrong (we think it right), this condition will continue. If the courts in Alabama are to be condemned, if they are to be lynched, another court, the court of the "oldtime lynching," will be substituted for them. The Nation need have no doubt of that. The only way to prevent it would be for The Nation and its cult to subjugate Alabama, send an army and over-run it. That will not be done.

In Alabama are ruffians, thugs, brutes, murderous lynchers, many of them. They hate the Alabama courts. So does The Nation. The liaison between them and The Nation is perfect, however The Nation is unaware of it.

We can think of nothing more unfortunate for the Southern negroes than would be the attempt by Federal authority to deprive the State of Alabama of the right to try its criminals—for Federal authority in the United States no longer entertains the wish or has the power to trample upon and crush Alabama. Massachusetts and Alabama are at one in the matter of trying criminals whether they be murderers or rapists.

These infatuated defenders of the Scottsboro negroes are curiously without a sense of humor. Had no soldiers been sent to Scottsboro during the trial and a lynching had occurred (there is no reason to say that it would have occurred), they would have denounced Governor Miller and all Alabamians as party to it, accusing them of criminal negligence. The soldiers were sent, there was no disorder, no rioting—and they set up the presence of the soldiers as evidence that the negroes could not get a fair trial in Scottsboro! The Nation's expression is all but one of disappointment.

The decent people, the decent press, and the courts will put down lynching in Alabama despite the unwitting and insane efforts of such agencies as The Nation to incite the ruffian element of Alabama's population against the

…s can be punished better by civilized procedure than by bloody murderers, lynchers—for when men lynch, whatever the provocation, they murder.

The interferers with the courts in Alabama are the arrayed accessories and promoters of lynch law in the Southern States. They are breeding lynchers, they care less than nothing about the poor negroes, they would welcome the lynching of a thousand negroes because they think it helpful to their cause of disorder and anarchy.

The Alabamians who defend their courts when they try negroes, or white men, and punish felons when they are convicted, are the best and the only defenders of the negro race.
—Charleston News and Courier.

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black people. The Nation does no more than make the task more tedious.—Charleston News and Courier.

Macon, Ga. Telegraph
Tuesday, April 19, 1932

Lynching In Kansas

A mob of Kansas farmers took Richard Read, a white man, 53 years old, out of jail at St. Francis, and hanged him. He had confessed to abducting, assaulting and killing an eight-year old girl.

The fact that he was loose upon society is an indictment of its method, or lack of method, of handling abnormal persons. Read had been convicted of the crime of assault before, in Colorado. He had served a term in jail and had been released. Under our theory of punishment, all you can do to a degenerate is to put him in jail and punish him. After he gets out of jail, he is a degenerate right on, of course. The state has done nothing to cure him of his disease—and it is a disease—or to render society any safer. All it has done has been to punish him for a crime he has already committed.

It is excusable to allow degenerates to go around loose in society when society does not know it, but when the degeneracy has been known and punished, it is not the fault of the beast at all, but of those who have been stupid enough to follow an obsolete method of dealing with him. The eight-year old girl's death is the fault of a stupid society. The farmers who lynched him were the finest exemplifiers of that stupidity and the sheriff who turned him over to the mob typical of all sheriffs whose prisoners are lynched.

The Kansas farmers had all the provocation in the world to lynch. The crime was atrocious. Yet, if we say that provocation is justification for murder, then provocation must be justification for all murders. Nobody ever kills without some provocation. If we say that, we say that law no longer binds; that anybody is free to kill. Say that and the Kansas farmer has no more protection for his own home and his own family. Anybody who has provocation is free to kill him. We cannot have law and lynching. One or the other must break down. The sooner we break down lynching in America, the better will it be for us.

The sheriff knows, of course, who was in the mob. Most sheriffs do. Most of them, too, turn prisoners over to mobs either because they sympathize or because they are too cowardly not to do so. Lynchings are done by men who are too cowardly to do violence except in packs, abetted by sheriffs who are too cowardly to resist them.

GREENVILLE, TEX.
EVE. BANNER

APR 4 1929

A HERITAGE RUINED

Texas has spoiled her record of having no lynchings in over a year with the lynching of a negro in Crockett.

The negro was wrested from the hands of the law, the officer who had him in charge losing the negro while en route to carry him to jail to await justice. The laws made by all Texans were not sufficient for the members of the mob so they decided upon what constitutes justice themselves without bothering to contemplate what other Texans who have a right to participate in lawmaking, think and feel.

Mob violence arises purely out of selfishness. This mob, like all other mobs, considered only themselves, not taking into consideration what the thousands of other citizens of Texas who, with the mob members themselves, had decided long ago what course should be pursued in cases like this. All Texans are heirs to the Texas lynching record. A few inflamed citizens have spoiled what might have been a heritage which would excite pride. There can be no pride in a record filled with miscarriages of justice like the Crockett case, the Port Arthur case, the Sherman case and hundreds of other cases of mob violence.

Dalton, Ga., N. Ga. Citizen
Thursday, April 7, 1932

Lynching Can't Be Defended

There are a few who will argue that it is necessary to lynch "niggers" in order to keep them in the straight and narrow. That argument is puerile. A civilization based on lawlessness will not stand long. In fact it is no civilization at all.

These ideas come to us as we read about the complaints against George Fort Milton for his speech before the press institute a few weeks ago. This institute was held at Athens, the Chattanooga editor having been invited to address it on any subject he might select. He chose the subject of lynching as applied to the state of Georgia. We think the subject was germane, and we can not see why there should be objection raised to what was said so long as it was true. And we have not heard that it wasn't true.

The Albany Herald, speaking to the comments The Citizen made with reference to the Milton address, says:

The only way any state, or any community, can be brought to a realization of many of its shortcomings is to be forced to face the truth, however unpleasant the truth may be. Any lynching in Georgia is a discredit to the state, and every lynching that occurs is an encouragement for the next group that is tempted to take the law into its own hands. There is a good deal of resentment in some quarters in Georgia because Editor Milton made horrible examples of certain Georgia counties, and one county in particular. But we have an idea Mr. Milton wanted to bring his message to Georgians as close home as possible, and the question is whether the things he said were true. If they were, the state can with greater profit go seriously about the business of correcting the evil than devoting its time for making faces at an editor from a neighboring state who only desires to be helpful.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.
ADVERTISER
MAR 29 193

Who Promote Lynching?

The Supreme Court of Alabama having affirmed the judgment and sentence of seven of the eight Scottsboro negroes who committed an infamous and capital crime, which insures their punishment by death, an outcry may now be expected from the Communists and the "Liberals" throughout the United States and in other parts of the world. These are people who deny the sovereignty of Alabama, who set up to be superior rulers of Alabama to the Alabamians.

These people, these outsiders, are, in the first place, opposed to capital punishment. They think that nobody should be hanged for anything.

They would like to crush all government. They are hostile to our order of civilization.

Their notion of the crime committed by the negroes is foreign to ours in the South. They look on it as a relatively minor offense.

They are not concerned about how the laws of Alabama are carried out. They do not want them carried out.

What took place in Scottsboro was vindication of the law. Soldiers of the national guard were sent to the village to protect the court. They protected it. They saw that a trial was had and that ruffians in a populace naturally aroused did not lynch the prisoners.

The plain truth is that seldom in the South has there been a higher and better illustration of orderly, lawful, civilized, procedure than in this Scottsboro case, in Alabama.

The stress placed on the allegation that the defenseless women who were the victims of the negroes were not exemplary members of society is, of course, alien to the question at issue and is introduced into it by the enemies of the law. Whether the two women were good or bad, the evidence is that force was employed against them, and the law in Alabama (so it is in South Carolina, as it should be) is that a crime so done is punishable by death. If that were not the law decent people could not and would not live in Alabama. The Alabamians and the other Southerners mean that the conditions in Honolulu shall not prevail in their states.

What respectable people in Alabama wish is that there shall be law and not "lynch law." They believe that the most despicable criminals

Lynchings-1932
Discussions.

White Press (southern)

3622

SAN ANTONIO, TEX.
NEWS

JUL 11 1932

IN COMBATING LYNCHING

REPORT by the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching—organized in Atlanta in November, 1930, to carry on educational work against mob crimes—shows that it now has 5,000 members. The Association steadily is progressing toward its goal—"to take the campaign against lynching into the smallest and most remote community in the South." Today the movement is represented in all 13 Southern States, in 468 of the section's 1,282 counties and in more than a thousand cities a[illegible] [illegible]wns. Most likely the group's educational efforts and [illegible] influence had something to do with the marked reduction in mob outrages during the past 18 months.

Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute lately reported but five lynchings in the first half of 1932, three of them in the South. Credit is due officials who prevented mob outbreaks, but here, also, the women's influence may have figured. At the outset of their crusade the leaders declared: "We are profoundly convinced that lynching is not a defense of womanhood, but rather a menace to private and public safety and a deadly blow at our most sacred institutions."

JUSTICE CHEATED

Princeton and community get the sorry credit for furnishing this state with its first lynching since 1929 in the dealing of summary punishment to Walter Merrick by a group of citizens Tuesday night.

Rev. Paul Shell Powell, who closed a revival at the Methodist church Wednesday, spoke our sentiments and those of all level-headed citizens, from the steps of the court house Wednesday morning, when he strongly condemned the spirit that prompted the terrible deed.

Nothing is settled by this latest addition to the deplorable history of the P'Pool store bombing. No man or set of men have a right to take the law into their own hands, or to place themselves in pre-emptory judgment of a fellow man.

There is no end to such a chain of lawlessness, for each wrong committed lends itself to further attempts to even matters by the other side; ending in bloody feuds that sooner or later catch innocent victims in their deadly vortex.

The bombing of the mercantile store of M. P'Pool was condemned in no meek words in this column, and with like language the perpetrators of this latest unwarranted crime are assailed.

There is but one refuge for those who love peace and desire the good will of their fellow citizens, and that is law and order. County Attorney Hardin, Sheriff Press Blackburn, County Judge W. W. Childress and numerous others had spent every effort to bring about the arrest and conviction of Walter Merrick for his alleged bombing of the store at Hopson, and it was not a wise act or a generous one which robbed their duty of its purpose.

NASHVILLE, TENN., TENNESSEAN

JULY 26, 1931 A1

COMMENTARY ON LYNCHING

Norfolk ~~has recently produced a case~~ which though no mob was involved, might well be used to illustrate the hazards and uncertainties of the mob law which some Southern communities still insist on meting out to negroes accused of crime against white women.

The Norfolk case is one in which on January 7 a young white woman reported to the police that she had been attacked by a negro. She gave a detailed circumstantial account of the alleged crime and on her information the police rounded up a suspect whom she identified as her assailant. Prior to the trial the negro is said to have made a confession to the police, which was later withdrawn and a plea of not guilty entered. On January 29 the negro was convicted and sentenced to death in the electric chair.

His attorneys did not, however, give up hope. They discovered evidence that the woman victim of the alleged attack had been at a North Carolina dance hall forty miles from Norfolk at the time she had testified she was unconscious at the scene of the alleged crime. This and other testimony created such a furor that a special grand jury was convoked to review the whole case, with the result that the woman was indicted for perjury. Tried on this indictment last week, she was ~~convicted and sentenced to five years~~ in the penitentiary. The negro, meanwhile, had been acquitted ~~at a second trial of~~ the offense for which he had first been sentenced to die.

~~This case ought~~ to make those states which still tolerate lynching extremely uneasy. Here is a case in which the law itself came to the brink of a terrible mistake. Since the law was responsible, however, a means of correction and redress was at hand. How many comparable mistakes have been made by irresponsible mobs for whose action there was no redress it is impossible to say—Baltimore Sun.

Tuskegee

LITTLE ROCK, ARK.
GAZETTE

SEP 17 1932

ARKANSAS'S FINE RECORD IS BROKEN.

Arkansas's name is taken from a roll of honor by the lynching at Crossett of a Negro who had made a savage attack with a razor on a deputy city marshal.

This is a Southern state, with a large Negro population and with law enforcement officers comparatively insignificant in number beside the total population. Yet not since 1927 had there been a mob execution in Arkansas. That was a proud record. It is a moral and civic tragedy that it should be broken.

There are two preventives for lynchings. One is in courageous peace officers who will not tolerate mob action. The sheriff was absent from the city when the Crossett lynching occurred and therefore had no opportunity to act. The other preventive, which offers the only real and sure way to stop this negation of law, is in public sentiment. In those states that never have such mob violence, lynchings are not prevented by the presence and the power of peace officers. Lynchings do not occur because the public won't have them. The public is willing to leave the trial and punishment of murderers and other offenders to the courts.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK.
GAZETTE

SEP 24 1932

Cost of Lynchings to Society Declared Tremendous.

To the Editor of the Gazette:

If the lynching of either Negroes or whites were merely wasted energy there need not be much said about it, but its cost to society and particularly to future generations is tremendous. It not only creates widespread resentment among colored people but it promotes prejudice in the younger generation of both races. While there is no necessity of forming a close relationship between the races, neither is there any need of mistreating the Negro. We have already begun to pay the price of our folly. There have already been several race riots and there now exists among the Southern Negroes a general feeling of disrespect for white people. Considering the rapid advancement of the black race, both in education and population, there should be more discretion used in dealing with them. Mob rule is based more upon sentiment than upon sense and in every case acts as a magnet to the very lowest elements of society. However good the intention may be, it always falls into the hands of the unscrupulous and results in a prolonged disturbance of the social order. Regardless of how embittered we become over fiendish crimes, our duty as law-abiding and patriotic citizens is to let the law take its course. The bigotedness of many Negroes who are natives of the South in contrast to the politeness of the Northern Negro is a product of our own making.

Ch[illegible]nault Junkin.

Little Rock, Ark.

COMMITTEE PROTESTS LYNCHING IN ARKANSAS

The commission on interracial cooperation Friday mailed a letter of protest to Governor Harvey Parnell, of Arkansas, relative to the lynching at Crossett which took place publicly and in the light of day.

The letter, signed by W. W. Alexander, director, and R. H. King, chairman of the executive committee, said that "it is obvious that this community has indicted both itself and the south," and "we desire to protest earnestly against such lapses into barbarism."

Constitution
9-17-32
Atlanta

Richmond, Va. News-Leader
Tuesday, September 20, 1932

WAS IT A LYNCHING?

The circumstances surrounding the death of SHADRACK THOMPSON, in Warren county, ought to be probed. This Negro was suspected of an attack on Mr. and Mrs. HENRY BAXLEY, of Hume, Va., in July. He had been employed by the BAXLEYS, and disappeared after the attack. His body was found Thursday not far from Linden, hanging from a tree and partially burned. The theory of the county officers is that when his pursuers were close on his trail, he committed suicide rather than submit to arrest. The distance of the body from the scene of the murder, the time that had elapsed after his disappearance, and the absence of all hints of mob violence make this probable. The case is certainly not to be written down as a lynching unless positive evidence is forthcoming. Negroes, however, very rarely commit suicide, and persons who find a dead body hanging from a tree in the woods are not apt to set fire to it before notifying the sheriff. If this actually happened, the facts should be established beyond all doubt. Virginia is increasingly jealous of her good name as a state that protects even the worst criminal from the madness of the mob, and she is determined to enforce to the letter her stringent anti-lynching law.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK.
GAZETTE

SEP 27 1932

Sees No Need for Apology For Lynching at Crossett.

To the Editor of the Gazette:

In the People's Column of the Gazette a correspondent commented on the lynching of a Negro at Crossett, Ark. He deplored the lynching as likely to rouse further enmity between the races and cause friction in the ranks of the Inter-Allied Racial Society. He didn't have a word to say about the white officer horribly injured by this Negro immediately under the eyes of the law. He and others called the public's attention to the alleged fact that the murderer hadn't killed, stolen or resisted the law in any way for 20 years before. As a citizen, law-abiding and tolerant, I prefer that the law deal with all crimes; but I do not see why there should be apology made to any "society" because an outraged citizenry breaks the law. This same society takes it for granted that a Negro cannot and does not commit crimes against "white folks." (See Alabama case.) Thereby hangs my excuse for this letter. The writer of that communication and others like him, call nation-wide attention to crime in Arkansas by writing such letters for the press deploring the crime but detailing all the circumstances, nevertheless. I for one see no reason for the existence of the Inter-Allied Racial Society. We have abundant laws. Let them be applied.

A Citizen.

INDEPENDENT

Hinton, W. Va.

SEP 29 1932
~~OCT~~

ECHO OF DOUBLE LYNCHING

The supremecourt on Tuesday afternoon heard an echo of the lynching on the night of Dec. 10, 1931, of George Banks and Tom Jackson, alleged murderers of Constable Joe Myles and Jack Brown, at Leslie on the night of Nov. 22, 1931. The negroes were taken from the jail at Lewisburg early in the morning by an armed band of men and hanged to a telephone pole an Wilson hill on the Midland trail two miles west of Lewisburg. Soon after the lynching Thelma Mullins, a sister of Banks, was appointed administratix of his estate and Jackson's widow was appointed administratrix of her husband's estate and thru a Charleston attorney each filed suit in the Kanawha county circuit court to recover from the county the penalty of $5,000 provided by statue for the lynching of a prisoner by mob law. Prosecuting Attorney White filed a plea of abatement in the Kanawha county circuit court, setting up that the Kanawha county circuit court did not have jurisdiction, but suit must be entered in the circuit court of Greenbrier County. Judge Hudson held with him, and certified the case to the supreme court for final determination. The case of Mullins vs. the County Court was argued in the supreme court on Tuesday afternoon, Mr. White appearing on behalf of the county. The ruling in this case will govern the disposition of both cases. The higher court reserved decision.

MERIDIAN, MISS.
STAR

OCT 2 1932

EXAMPLE

A woman is assaulted and slain.

A negro is forthwith arrested and charged with heinous crime.

The culprit is tried and sentenced to the gallows within some fifty minutes.

He must pay the ultimate in penalty for the ultimate in crimes.

And neither violence nor "lynch law."

A woman raped and killed—

A negro, not only found guilty, but confessing the crime of all the crimes.

Yet, law and order takes its course.

This incident occurred in Neshoba county — only a short ride from this Meridian community.

Neither all southerners are mob-inclined nor are all northerners merely gangster-gunmen led.

Chicago papers will please copy—

And read and heed with understanding profit.

Rocky Mount, N. C., Telegram
Wednesday, November 23, 1932

TWIN BARBARIANS

Saturday in Atlanta women representing twelve Southern States began a campaign which they hoped would bring the South through 1933 without a single lynching. They were encouraged by the fact that until then only six lynchings had occurred in 1932 and only four of these were in the South.

On Sunday on a roadside near Winnsboro, La., the body of a Negro who had been charged with insulting two white women, was found hanging from a tree riddled with bullets.

This new act of barbarism detracts in no way from the nobleness of purpose of the movement begun at Atlanta. But it does emphasize the fact that to end lynching is a long and difficult task. There must be built a courageous sense of responsibility in the law officers of the South, and lynchers, under the law's sterm hand must be brought to a true understanding of the majesty of the law.

Those who commit lynchings in the South, as elsewhere, are themselves a brutish element in a law-abiding people. Few of them ever hear of such a movement as that in Atlanta to cure the South of the ugliest and most cowardly of its crimes. And in a lynching party the lowest and most cowardly mind becomes the mind of the mob.

The cure of lynching, like the cure of any other crime, lies in both bringing swift justice to the criminals and in building an enlightened public indignation against the crime.

The Southern lyncher and the city gangster are twin barbaric figures in a civilized land.—Raleigh News and Observer.

LYNCHLESS SOUTH GOAL OF SOCIETY

Telegraph

More Than 7,000 Women Join Movement to Improve Conditions in Dixie

11-20-32

ATLANTA, Nov. 19. (AP)—Women representing 12 southern states met here today and started a campaign they hope will bring the south through 1933 without a single lynching.

Macon, Ga.

They met as delegates to the annual convention of the central council of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching and adopted this motto: "A lynchless south in 1933."

Reports that aroused their encouragement included these:

Only six lynchings have occurred in the United States thus far this year and only four of these were in the south, the lowest number for a similar period in 50 years.

Mississippi Improving

The state of Mississippi, formerly high in its lynching ratio, has not had a lynching in more than a year.

More than 7,000 women in many states have joined the association within two years and have pledged themselves to the eradication of mob violence.

Thirteen hundred towns and 575 counties are represented in the association's membership.

Women's organizations and churches have endorsed the movement and are lending aid, including the council of Southern Methodist women, the Southern Baptist Missionary union, the National Council of Jewish Women, the Young Women's Christian Association, state federations of women's clubs and various other religious and civic organizations.

Goal Is Possible

Regarding Mississippi, where the Negro population is greater than in any other state, the convention had this to say:

"If Mississippi can have a lynchless year, a lynchless south is a possible and reasonable goal."

The delegates agreed to campaign for extending the membership into all of the 1,282 counties of the southern states during the forthcoming year. Another goal is the endorsement and co-operation of all types of organized women's groups and a membership of at least 13,000 or a thousand in each southern state.

The council recalled that most lynchings occur in small towns or rural communities and for that reason, it is going to seek to enroll influential women living in places of that sort.

Womanhood Not Involved

The women pointed out they want it made plain above all things that they do not subscribe in any sense to the theory of some that lynching is some times necessary for the protection of womanhood.

Those attending the convention were the chairman, Mrs. George Maddin Martin of Louisville, Ky.; the secretary, Mrs. A. A. Newell of Greensboro, N. C.; the executive director, Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames of Atlanta; Mrs. W. B. Newell and Mrs. Charles E. Maddry of Richmond, Va.; Mrs. L. E. Brown of Waxham, N. C.; Miss Lisbeth Parrott of Raleigh, N. C.; Mrs. George E. Davis of Orangeburg, S. C.; Miss Carrie E. Meares of South Carolina; Mrs. E. W. Pfaff of Jacksonville, Fla.; Mrs. Virlyn Moore, Mrs. M. E. Tilly, Mrs. Harry Gershon, Miss Janie McGaughey and Mrs. Julian Harris of Atlanta; Mrs. W. A. Turner of Newnan, Ga.; Mrs. W. J. Neel of Forsyth, Ga.; Mrs. L. W. Alford of McComb, Miss.; Mrs. R. W. Irvine of New Orleans; Mrs. J. W. Mills of Beaumont, Texas; Mrs. J. D. Lawhorn of Tugo, Okla.; Mrs. B. J. Reaves of Little Rock, Ark.; Mrs. H. W. Hummel and Miss Nannie Hite Winston of Louisville, Ky., and Mrs. Robert O'Neal of Clarksville, Tenn.

HOUSTON, TEX.
POST DISPATCH

DEC 9 1932

Only Six Lynchings

THERE has been a depression in lynching, too, during 1932, it is gratifying to report. Thus far there have been only four instances of mob murder this year. If none occur before January 1 the year 1932 will set a new low level for this crime for the last half century.

Four of the six lynchings recorded happened in the South. That is something for the South to be ashamed of. But, at the same time, this section may take pride in the fact that the total number was so greatly reduced.

The lynching record for 1932 encourages the hope that this form of violence, peculiar to the United States, may be stamped out entirely within a short time. The various agencies that are working to arouse public sentiment to intolerance of the lynching evil, and the officers of the law, who, through devotion to duty, have foiled mobs, all are entitled to congratulations on the comparatively good record made this year.

May next year's be perfect.

Lynchings-1932

White Press (Southern.)

3623

Discussions,

CITIZEN
Dalton, Ga
APR 7 1932

~~Lynching Can't~~ Be Defended

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These ideas come to us as we read about the complaints against George Fort Milton for his speech before the press institute a few weeks ago. This institute was held at Athens, the Chattanooga editor having been invited to address it on any subject he might select. He chose the subject of lynching as applied to the state of Georgia. We think the subject was germane, and we can not see why there should be objection raised to what was said so long as it was true. And we have not heard that it wasn't true.

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Sheriffs Are Blamed In Majority Of Lynchings

ATLANTA, GA., March 30.—(AP)—George Fort Milton, editor of The Chattanooga News, told members of the Interracial Commission in annual meeting here today that vigilant sheriffs, with the help available to them, could prevent 80 per cent of the lynchings.

The editor with a group of Southern leaders, recently completed a study of 21 lynchings in 1930.

3-31-32

FIGHT ON LYNCHINGS OUTLINED BY MILTON

Constitution

3-31-32

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Atlanta, Ga

The editor, with a group of southern leaders, recently completed a study of 21 lynchings in 1930.

The commission has two tasks, Mr. Milton said, in relation to the crime of lynching. One, he said, is an immediate drive for prevention of lynching and prosecution, and the other is a more fundamental effort to create public opinion that will no longer tolerate mob violence.

The commission was told that several thousand southern white women had enrolled in the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching. Mrs. Jesse Daniel Ames, director of the woman's work department, made the statement and added that the organization had grown rapidly since its beginning in Atlanta. She said it now enlists 13 strong state committees and several thousand individual women pledged to use their influence against lynching.

Deans of southern law schools are investigating the legal aspects of lynching, which includes a comprehensive survey of all existing laws and legal processes for prevention and punishment in lynching cases.

Mr. Milton said a book, containing detailed findings of the 21 lynching cases in 1930, soon would be published.

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CHARLESTON, S. C.
NEWS
MAR 26 1932

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Their notion of the crime committed by the negroes is foreign to ours in the South. They look on it as a relatively minor offence.

They are not concerned about how the laws of Alabama are carried out. They do not want them carried out.

What took place in Scottsboro was vindication of the law. Soldiers of the national guard were sent to the village to protect the court. They protected it. They saw that a trial was had and that ruffians in a populace naturally aroused did not lynch the prisoners.

The plain truth is that seldom in the South has there been a higher and better illustration of orderly, lawful, civilized, procedure than in this Scottsboro case, in Alabama.

The stress placed on the allegation that the defenceless women who were the victims of the negroes were not exemplary members of society is, of course, alien to the question at issue and is introduced into it by the enemies of the law. Whether the two women were good or bad, the evidence is that force was employed against them, and the law in Alabama (so it is in South Carolina, as it should be) is that a crime so done is punishable by death. If that were not the law decent people could not and would not live in Alabama. The Alabamians and the other Southerners mean that the conditions in Honolulu shall not prevail in their states.

What respectable people in Alabama wish is that there shall be law and not "lynch law." They believe that the most despicable criminals can be punished better by civilized procedure than by bloody murderers, lynchers—for when men lynch, whatever the provocation, they murder.

The interferers with the courts in Alabama are the arrayed accessories and promoters of lynch law in the Southern states. They are breeding lynchers, they care less than nothing about the poor negroes, they would welcome the lynching of a thousand negroes because they think it helpful to their cause of disorder and anarchy.

The Alabamians who defend their courts when they try negroes, or white men, and punish felons when they are convicted, are the best and the only defenders of the negro race.

ANNISTON, ALA.
STAR
APR 4 1932

THE OFFICER'S DUTY IN THWARTING MOBS

George Fort Milton, editor of The Chattanooga News, believes that a lynching is usually the result of negligence or indifference on the part of officers and records of lynchings in past years seem to bear out that view. It has been shown that officers have prevented lynchings in a number of instances and that should be an indication of what may be done in a majority of cases.

Speaking before the annual meeting of the Interracial Commission in Atlanta the other day, Mr. Milton declared that vigilant sheriffs, with the help available to them, could prevent 80 per cent of the lynchings. He has reached that conclusion after making a study, with a group of Southern leaders, of 21 lynchings reported in 1930.

As a means of putting a check on this crime he recommended two measures: an immediate drive for the prevention of lynching and a more vigorous effort to create public opinion that will no longer tolerate mob violence.

Due diligence on the part of officers of the law will help eliminate this evil and public sentiment will force officers to do their duty in this respect if they are not disposed to do so otherwise.

Chattanooga, Tenn. News
Saturday, April 16, 1932

METHODIST WOMEN HIT LYNCHING, WETS

Pass Resolution Here Calling for Law Enforcement.

Resolutions urging the strict enforcement of the national dry law and condemnation of lynching were adopted by the Women's Missionary society of the Holston conference at the final session Friday. The organization is composed of women members of the Methodist Episcopal church, south.

The society expressed opposition to any move which would weaken the eighteenth amendment and its enforcement. A copy of the resolution was ordered sent to President Hoover.

The organization pledged its support in a campaign to arouse public opinion against lynching. This was described as a "crime undermining government."

The following members were selected to serve on the board of directors of the Holston conference orphanage at Greeneville; Mrs. W. D. Speer, Chattanooga; Mrs. C. D. Worley, Arlington, Va.; Mrs. Ernest Henson, Bluefield, W. Va.; Mrs. L. L. Copenhaven, Johnson City; Mrs. S. M. Bernard, Bluefield, W. Va.; Mrs. Thomas Truden, Knoxville; Mrs. W. M. Orrell, Princeton, W.

Va.; Mrs. A. J. Patterson, Greeneville; Mrs. H. D. Brown, Big Stone Gap, Va., and Mrs. Dora Young of Sweetwater.

The meeting next year will be held at the Church Street church, Knoxville.

HOUSTON, TEX
POST DISPATCH
APR 18 1932

LYNCHING AND THE NATION

By ALEX W. SPENCE

In the Commonweal.

NO COMMUNITY in the United States, nor even in our territorial possessions, for that matter, as recent events in Hawaii have shown, is free from the danger of so-called extra-legal justice. So far from being confined to Southern counties where negroes are most numerous, lynchings can occur almost anywhere the American flag flies.

This National aspect of the problem of combating mob murder shows unmistakably in the general findings of the Southern commission on the study of lynching, a special group appointed eighteen months ago by the commission on interracial co-operation to make a study of the causes underlying the resort to mob violence. An examination of all lynchings in the eighteen months ending September 1, 1931, reveals that eleven occurred in counties which had had no prior experience of this form of lawlessness during the present century. Even more startling is the fact that four of these were in counties outside of the South with less than 5 per cent negro population. The record further discloses that since 1900 only Michigan, New York, New Jersey and the six New England States have escaped the blight of lynching.

But if the problem is National in scope, it is most acute in the Southern States. Exactly 3703 persons are known to have been lynched in the entire country in the forty-year period ending in 1929. Happily there has been a decrease in the number of lynchings almost year by year and certainly decade by decade. Whereas the average number of lynchings each year in the decade 1889-1899 was 187.5, this average had fallen to 61.9 between 1910 and 1929, and to 16.8 between 1925 and 1929. The decrease, however, has been least rapid in the Southern States, with the result that the South's proportion of all lynchings has shown a marked increase from approximately 82 per cent in the first ten years after 1889 to 97.4 per cent in the five-year period after 1925. Racial aspects of lynching have been brought sharply to the fore by the relatively greater decrease of white mob victims in the last forty-one years. Approximately 90 per cent of the persons lynched in the South since 1900 were negroes. Half of the remaining 10 per cent have been Mexicans in Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas, while there were several foreigners among the small number of white persons lynched in the South.

There were twenty-one lynchings in 1930, or as many deaths from mob violence as had occurred in the two years preceding combined. The commission's general findings report not only upon the circumstances surrounding the crimes charged to each of these victims, including details of each lynching, but also picture the economic backgrounds, social patterns and prevalent community psychology of each community in which a lynching occurred. Thus these detailed case studies are of interest to all students of social behavior as well as to formers and leaders of public opinion.

A curious fact brought out by this study is that, statistically, negroes per 10,000 population are safer from mob deaths in the old black belt of the South where they are more than half the population than anywhere in the South. Conversely, the negro's life is least secure in those areas of the South latest to be developed, as for instance in Florida, Oklahoma and Texas. A direct correlation is also found in the scarcity of population per county and the rate of lynchings. That is, the rate is highest in counties with the fewest inhabitants, and lowest in the most populous counties.

Economic factors behind lynching are forcefully suggested by these facts, and the detailed report confirms this surmise. These factors range from the poverty of the more sparsely settled communities, with their consequent failure to provide adequate police protection and law enforcement, to such a matter as the bitter racial tension in the poorer communities induced by economic rivalry between white and negro members of the community.

The role of the peace officer and the jailer in preventing mob murder is one of extreme importance.

While there is an encouraging tendency throughout the South for law enforcement officers to preserve the majesty of the law better against members of any mob, and while leading white women are re-emphasizing that Southern womanhood depends for its protection upon officers and the courts, not upon the mob, it is yet a lamentable fact that of the 254 persons lynched between 1921 and 1929 almost 60 per cent were taken from peace officers either outside or from within jails.

Where does the responsibility lie for elimination of lynching, and what tangible measures are open to achieve that end? The commission's report frankly faces the fact that the negro crime rate is abnormally high, although due in no small part to failure by the dominant white group to provide proper safeguards and correctives on the part of the community. Negro leaders should aid in the eradication by lynching by co-operating with law-abiding, influential white citizens, and by seeking to extend their influence as leaders of the race over the more lawless element.

But the primary responsibility, the commission finds, rests with the white people of the South. The dominant economic group, controlling the purse strings of the public treasury, should see that proper police protection is thrown around negro communities. Larger appropriations for negro education should be made. Only $3.81 is appropriated for each negro child in Alabama, compared with the $26.57 per capita appropriation for white children. Texas, which appropriates $20.24 for each negro child, the highest amount of any Southern State, still appropriates almost $11 more per child for its white charges. Of even greater concern is the lack of State institutional care for hopelessly defective negroes in many areas. It is such defectives left at large in the community who largely furnish crimes of the most violently provocative nature.

Deans of various Southern law schools, associated in the commission on the study of legal problems in lynching, are now making a survey of the whole field.

Two legal expedients considered "most worthy of consideration" by the reporting body are: (1) compulsory removal of prisoners in certain types of cases; (2) arbitrary power in the hands of State authorities to extend protection and, if necessary, to change the venue in the trial of lynchers, and to suspend officers who yield their prisoners to mobs.

The commission emphasizes the part which religious and civic leaders in each local community should take in combating this evil. The findings point out the strategic positions of the Southern Baptist and Southern Methodist denominations especially, because of their very large and widespread membership throughout the South, in perfecting the influence against lynching. And the report ends on the positive note that the ultimate deterrent to mob murder is public opinion.

Chattanooga, Tenn. Times
Saturday, April 16, 1932

METHODISTS WANT DRY LAW ENFORCED

Missionary Group Delegates Also Oppose Lynchings.

Holston Conference Session Ends With Recommendations of Committees.

Resolutions urging the enforcement of the Eighteenth amendment and expressing opposition to lynching were adopted at the closing session of the Woman's Missionary society, Holston conference, Methodist Episcopal church, south, yesterday at the Highland Park church.

The resolution concerning the Eighteenth amendment expressed the society's opposition to the weakening of the amendment. A copy of the resolution is to be sent to President Hoover.

In adopting the resolution in regard to lynching, the society pledged its support in a campaign to arouse public opinion against the practice, which was termed a "crime which undermines government."

Among the recommendations of the session committee, which were accepted were: That efforts to promote the cause of world peace be redoubled; that auxiliaries promote interest in leadership training for colored women; that Christian race relations be promoted; that the superintendent of Christian social relations co-operate with other agencies in promoting adult education; that emphasis be given to the children's work; and that a spiritual life committee be appointed in each auxiliary.

Mrs. W. H. Wysor and Mrs. B. I. Dahlberg were elected alternates to the Woman's Missionary council which will be held in Louisville, Ky., next year. Those giving reports from the council meeting held in Atlanta were Mrs. S. M. Bernard, Mrs. J. E. Wolfe, Mrs. H. B. Reynolds and Mrs. J. M. Carter.

Winners in the poster contest were the Broad Street church, of Cleveland; Trinity church, of Bluefield, Va.; Centenary church, of Chattanooga; Broad Street church, of Kingsport, and Magnolia avenue church, of Knoxville. Mrs. R. M. Havens, of Bristol, gave the courtesy report. The report on Christian social relations, written by Mrs. H. J. Garnand, who was unable to be present, was read by Mrs. Wolfe, conference secretary.

China is a peace-loving nation, according to Miss Bao Yu Yang, of China, addressing the meeting. Miss Yang, who was an outstanding student in China, was sent to Scarritt college in Nashville for further education. She has been in the United States a year and a half. After her graduation from Scarritt, she plans to return to China as a native missionary. For her address here on "Voice of Youth," Miss Yang appeared in a Chinese costume of maroon brocade satin, with black velvet trimmings. She wore high-heeled slippers.

Young people of China were described by Miss Yang as belonging to four classes, those seeking scientific perfection; those who are absorbing bolshevik ideas; those who want a militaristic nation, and those who are seeking a greater knowledge of Christ and the Christlike life. She spoke of the number of native missionaries in China, who are becoming leaders.

Montgomery, Ala. Advertiser
Friday, April 22, 1932

Involuntary Ally Of Lynchers

An editorial of The Baltimore Sun regretting the refusal of a Grand Jury to indict persons suspected of participating in a lynching in Salisbury and its suggestion that the anti-lynching laws be amended, "that it would greatly stimulate the lethargy of communities wherein a lynching Grand Jury refused to indict," received the hearty praise of "The Nation," of New York. It is doubtless well bestowed. In an editorial immediately preceding The Nation says: "Alabama, in short, no longer troubles itself with the unpleasant features provided by an oldtime lynching; but the result for seven young negroes accused of rape on the unsupported testimony of a white woman of highly questionable reputation, will, unless the Federal Supreme Court intervenes, be substantially the same."

Thus this New York weekly, pleading for better anti-lynching laws in Maryland, in the same column tries, in its own office, not only the seven negroes convicted in Scottsboro and acquits them, but convicts the law, the Circuit and the Supreme Courts of Alabama.

Ordinarily, The News and Courier would not consider this worth noticing, but it is interested in behalf of the Southern negroes. In Alabama and in most Southern States negroes are tried in white men's courts. Right or wrong (we think it right), this condition will continue. If the courts in Alabama are to be condemned, if they are to be lynched, another court, the court of the "oldtime lynching," will be substituted for them. The Nation need have no doubt of that. The only way to prevent it would be for The Nation and its cult to subjugate Alabama, send an army and over-run it. That will not be done.

In Alabama are ruffians, thugs, brutes, murderous lynchers, many of them. They hate the Alabama courts. So does The Nation. The liaison between them and The Nation is perfect, however The Nation is unaware of it.

We can think of nothing more unfortunate for the Southern negroes than would be the attempt by Federal authority to deprive the State of Alabama of the right to try its criminals—for Federal authority in the United States no longer entertains the wish or has the power to trample upon and crush Alabama. Massachusetts and Alabama are at one in the matter of trying criminals whether they be murderers or rapists.

These infatuated defenders of the Scottsboro negroes are curiously without a sense of humor. Had no soldiers been sent to Scottsboro during the trial and a lynching had occurred (there is no reason to say that it would have occurred), they would have denounced Governor Miller and all Alabamians as party to it, accusing them of criminal negligence. The soldiers were sent, there was no disorder, no rioting—and they set up the presence of the soldiers as evidence that the negroes could not get a fair trial in Scottsboro! The Nation's expression is all but one of disappointment.

The decent people, the decent press, and the courts will put down lynching in Alabama despite the unwitting and insane efforts of such agencies as The Nation to incite the ruffian element of Alabama's population against the black people. The Nation does no more than make the task more tedious.—Charleston News and Courier.

DALLAS, TEX.
JOURNAL
APR. 4 1932

No Lynching Record For Texas Is Ended.

THE first lynching in Texas since June 17, 1930, has been reported. The hopes of all citizens that mob executions, which they condemn for what they are, were at an end in Texas have been discouraged by this latest crime, but there should be some encouragement in the fact that the State has to its credit a period of almost two years in which no lynching has occurred.

The negro who was lynched in Houston County provoked the mob spirit of rural folk remote from town and was taken by his executioners before he could be delivered to guardians of the law. The conditions acquit the Houston County peace officers of any charge of dereliction of duty, but the assumption of the authority that rests in law by a squad of hangmen does no credit to the countryside in which the lynching took place and it puts another blot on the record of Texas.

There should be no faltering in the speech of men who denounce lynching. The mob spirit should be condemned with increasing emphasis. Officers of the law should be condemned in every case where they show a lack of courage in coping with the mob. And the attention of the people should be directed to every case in which the courts and juries function with sureness in dealing with offenses that provoke mob anger.

The swift and stern operation of justice with the negro fiend who murdered the aged farm couple near Garland, in Dallas County, was a recent and impressive example. In the face of such examples, the mob executioner is left without any extenuation whatsoever.

Lynchings - 1932
6

Discussions.

3624

White Press. (Southern)

Birmingham, Ala. News
Thursday, March 3, 1932

GEORGIA LYNCHINGS ARE CALLED "BLOT"

Chattanooga Editor Replies To Protest Made Against Speech On Subject

MACON, Ga.—(AP)—A charge Georgia's lynching record is "a blot on a fair name" is made by George Fort Milton, editor of The Chattanooga News, in reply to a protest against unflattering descriptions of economic conditions in Montgomery County, Georgia, which he gave in a diagnosis of lynching causes.

The protest was made by Hugh Peterson, Montgomery County legislator and editor of The Montgomery Monitor, in letters to Gov. Russell, of Georgia; Jack Williams, editor of The Waycross Journal-Herald and president of the Georgia Press Association, and to W. D. Anderson, of Macon, chairman of the Board of Regents of the University of Georgia.

Mr. Milton, chairman of the Southern Commission on Lynching, spoke Feb. 19 before the Georgia Press Association at the University of Georgia and said evidence had been found indicating "a greater likelihood of lynchings in communities living upon the fringe of hunger and of heartbreak."

Cites Examples

He cited examples and said a negro politician had been slain or lynched in Montgomery County, quoting the report of a Southern commission investigator which said" the poor whites of Montgomery and surrounding counties are poor indeed." The investigator gave a picture of low economic status.

Mr. Peterson, in his protest, said a newspaper article on Mr. Milton's address "conveyed an impression of Montgomery County that facts will not justify."

He urged that the governor bring his letter to the attention of the university board of regents and "have proper action taken to correct this propaganda which is false, contrary to facts and an insult to the honor and integrity of our people."

Replies To Protest

Mr. Milton replied to the protest in a statement to The Macon Telegraph saying he had "thorough confidence in the factual accuracy" of what the lynching commission investigators reported.

The Chattanooga editor reiterated that the Montgomery County case was "an outrage" and suggested citizens wishing to display indignation "display it against the perpetrator of the crime, rather than against those who are seeking underlying reasons for such breaches of laws of civil society in an effort to suggest ways and means to minimize their likelihood."

Mt. Vernon, Ga., Mont'g'ry Monitor
Thursday, March 3, 1932

PROPAGANDIST IGNORANT OF TRUE CONDITIONS

The Macon Telgraph has seen fit to deliberately publish an editorial adding insult to injury, not to the editor of the Monitor, but to the people of Montgomery County and the Town of Ailey. The effect of this editorial is to affirm the statements made by a speaker, whom the Telegraph says it invited into the state. The purpose of it is to make the editor of the Monitor mad so that he will do something rash to furnish more sensational news matter. And we are sorry that this daily paper desires to play with the character and reputation of our people in so cheap manner. In so doing it is attempting to rob us of that which we cherish—our good name, our just reputation for honesty, fair dealing, morality and other attributes of normal people striving to make an honest living in an honest manner. We do not complain at just criticism, but we do resent the dissemination by our state institution, which is supported by every tax payer of the state, of propoganda which an unbiased investigation will show to be untrue.

As to our feelings about the Mincey killing we call the Telegraph's attention to our editorial appearing in the Monitor of July 31, 1930. We also refer you to the account of the activities of our people as told in the issue of August 7, 1930. We did not hesitate to express our feelings over this matter. If the Telegraph desires to know the truth they may send their representative down and we will be glad to go over the records and show what our activities have been in an effort to stop such lawlessness, and we challenge them to place their own record beside ours. We know that no group of citizens of America have done more in proportion to their means than have the people of Montgomery County to bring an end to the wave of mob violence which swept our nation during the days of the Ku Klux Klan.

We pity those poor fellows who claim to be doing constructive journalistic work over at our state university through the dissemination of such propaganda as that regarding Montgomery County, which was collected by an inter-racial organization and made public through the agency of a citizen from a neighboring state. They really think they are doing good and feel that the human race is being benefitetd by their activities. They never once consider the human side of their activities. They do not realize that there are thousands of honest citizens striving daily to make a living, relying entirely upon their own resources without one cent pay or subsidy from the government, who worship their God with due reverence and consider the needs of their neighbor to the best of their ability, who seldom go beyond the confines of their county, but stick to their duty of making a daily living in an honest manner, who are being directly insulted when they disseminate such false propaganda. They are so far removed from normal living that they do not know or remember the essentials of honest living and honest labor or know how to cooperate with such people in their efforts to better themselves.

We do not blame the inter-racial committee for its biased report on the Mineey killing. We realize that human nature is so constituted that it is inclined to just such reports on the part of such investigators. But unbiased citizens should know the truth before they become involved in the spreading of such propaganda.

We can not speak for the other communities and people whom they indict, but we will speak for our county and our people. The citizens of Ailey were indignant at the killing of Mincey, which act resulted in the investigation and the report. We realize the act was committed to a citizen of our town and that always we must carry the brand to that extent. But the citizenry of our town were not to blame. The negro was held in respect by our people. He was a leader among his race and had done much good for his people. And his race has been and still is treated with proper regards by the white citizens of the town. As a fair indication of this, the records will show that only a few years ago his race raised through private subscriptions one thousand dollars for the building of a local public school in the town of Ailey. The white citizens matched this sum with a like sum of one thousand dollars. The Rosenwald Fund contributed seven hundred dollars. And the negroes, with proper co-operation from the white citizens, built one of the nicest public school buildings in this section. They built it free of debt, and Mincey was one of the leaders in the undertaking. We challenge the Telegraph or the inter-racial committee to show us another example of such co-operation between the two races that will excel this. Certainly this does not bespeak an atttude such as these professors imply. This is only one instance of true conditions. We can recount numerous others which give ample proof of the injustices of the implied charges.

They say we joined the Klan for relief. Had these professors or the Telegraph investigated they would have found the town of Ailey without a single active member of the Klan. We did have two citizens to join the klan but neither of them ever became active or participated in its affairs. A record which probably no other town in their section with equal or larger population can boast.

Certainly there were members of the klan in our county, but their activities met with resolute opposition of the vast majority of our white citizens. If these professors of journalism, and the Telegraph, will make an impartial investigation they will find that this county made a fight against such lawlessness hardly equalled by any county in America with like population. To recount these activities would only renew the bitterness of a day that has passed but would certainly prove the unfairness of the report.

True it is that our "poor whites are poor indeed" We are all poor now, but certainly that does not imply a lack of character or stability or honesty or christian citizenship.

There are irregularities of all kinds. We are not perfect. Neither are these fellows. But we do demand equal rights under our government and feel when public funds are being used by public instructors to falsely brand us as miserable wretches occupying territory filled with murdering, drunken outlaws the time has come for righteous protest.

Regardless of all the acts of violence committed here and in other parts of this state and in other states, it is not fair for those in power to brand, without first knowing the truth of such statements, their own people, their neighbors, their patrons, their friends, as a people lacking in the virility of normal citizens, resigned to seething fatalism and pessimism, ignorant, emotionally directed, almost criminally minded, eager to burn and hang. Especially when those very people are doing their dead level best to live the right kind of lives in the proper manner. As a citizen of this state, representing these people and speaking for them, we appeal to our Chief Executive and those under whose authority such propaganda is disseminated for redress. As a member of the Georgia Press Association we demand a correction of this unfounded representation and due apologies to our people and the rural sections of this and other South Georgia counties.

Lynchburg, Va., News
Tuesday, February 16, 1932

If a mob kills a Negro in the south accused of a horrible crime it is a lynching. If a gangster mob kills another gangster in New York it is a good riddance, but although it doesn't go down in the records but it is a lynching none the less and just as great a reflection upon the community in which it takes place.

Peterson and Milton Clash Over Causes of Lynchings

Constitution 3-2-32

Complaints Filed by Editor in Letters to Governor Russell and Williams.

MOUNT VERNON, Ga., March 1. (AP)—Complaint at a recent speech by George Fort Milton, editor of the Chattanooga News, in which he quoted the report of a lynching commission investigator on social and economic conditions in Montgomery county, Georgia, has been voiced by Hugh Peterson, editor of the Montgomery Monitor, in a letter to Governor Russell.

Atlanta Ga.

Mr. Milton spoke February 19 at the Institute of the Georgia Press Association, which met at the University of Georgia in Athens. Mr. Peterson, who is a member of the general assembly and a brother-in-law of the governor, said a newspaper article on Mr. Milton's address conveyed "an impression of Montgomery county that facts will not justify."

Mr. Peterson also wrote regarding the speech to Jack Williams, editor of the Waycross Journal-Herald, president of the Georgia Press Association; Hal Stanley, of Atlanta, secretary of the association, and to W. D. Anderson, of Macon, chairman of the board of regents of the University of Georgia.

In his letter to the governor he asked that the governor bring the letter to the attention of the board of regents "and have proper action taken to correct this propaganda, which is false, contrary to facts and an insult to the honor and integrity of our people."

The Monitor's editor charged that "this propaganda is sponsored by the state university, which is supported by the taxpayers of Montgomery and other counties of the state."

In his address Mr. Milton said evidence had been found indicating a "greater likelihood of lynchings in communities living upon the fringe of hunger and of heartbreak." He said a negro politician had been slain at Ailey, in Montgomery county, and that although "there was some question" whether it was a murder or a lynching, the question "does not interfere with the economic analysis."

From a report of an investigator of the southern commission on the study of lynching, he quoted: " 'The poor whites of Montgomery and surrounding counties are poor indeed. They are emaciated looking and they, with their wives and children, grow old while young. Mothers with sunken chests and practically no teeth, little babies in arms with scabs on their heads and running sores about their ears, boys chewing tobacco before they are half grown and girls staring and popping their gum, and men, women and children with dirty clothes and unkempt persons seething fatalism and pessimism are to be seen on every hand. There is much of frontier in this part of Georgia, with the virility of the frontier lacking.' "

The Chattanooga editor said solution of the lynching problem calls for quickening of the machinery of the law to prevent threatened lynchings and when they are not prevented to punish their perpetrators. He said the more important phase of the problem is to reorganize the social viewpoint of the south.

This, he added, "involves substituting satisfaction and contentment for hunger and heart-break in such places as Ocilla, Ailey and Darien."

In his letter to Mr. Williams, Mr. Peterson demanded that the president bring this matter "to the immediate attention of the association and take proper action to correct this propaganda, which is false, contrary to facts and an insult to the honor and integrity of our people."

WAYCROSS, GA.
JOURNAL HERALD

FEB 19 1932

BLAMES POVERTY FOR LYNCHINGS

Chattanooga Editor Speaks At Press Institute At Athens.

ATHENS, Ga., Feb. 19—(AP)—Reorganization of the South's social viewpoint so "justice rather than hysteria, hate and fear will control the adjudication of responsibility for crime" was recommended as a partial solution to the lynching problem today by a Southern newspaper editor.

The editor, George Fort Milton of the Chattanooga (Tenn.) News, an outstanding Southern writer and chairman of the Southern Commission on the study of lynching spoke here before the Georgia Press Institute and said the commission's investigators had found "evidence of a rather extraordinary type to indicate the greater likelihood of lynchings in communities living upon the fringe of hunger and of heartbreak."

"People spiritually as well as economically underprivileged," he added, "seemed quite ready to illuminate their drab, narrow, fruitless lives by the excitements and emotional releases of burning torch and shrieking victim."

The solution of the lynching problem, Milton said, lies in two types of action. One is the quickening of the machinery of law to prevent threatened lynchings and punish those who perpetrate them. The other, he said, is the "reorganization of the social viewpoint of the south so that justice rather than hysteria, hate and fear will control the adjudication of responsibility for crime."

W. T. Anderson, president and editor of the Macon Telegraph and of the Macon News, told the Institute last night "there is no such thing as freedom of the press in Georgia. The law forbids it."

MACON, GA
TELEGRAPH

MAR 2 1932

MILTON REPEATS GEORGIA CHARGE

Chattanooga Editor Emphasizes Relation Between Economic Status and Lynchings

Replying to criticism of his address on lynching before the Georgia Press Institute recently, George Fort Milton, president and editor of the Chattanooga, Tenn., News, Tuesday telephoned a statement to The Telegraph in which he reiterated his opinion that "there is a close relationship between economic and social conditions and the occurrence of lynchings."

Mr. Milton, chairman of the Southern Commission for the Study of Lynching, made the statement at the request of The Telegraph.

"The description of economic conditions in the Georgia cases referred to in my Athens speech was taken from detailed case studies of those lynchings," Mr. Milton said, "made to the Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching by our trained staff investigators. I have thorough confidence in the factual accuracy of what they reported. For further details, you may see Dr. W. W. Alexander, director of the Commission on Inter-Racial Co-operation, Standard building, Atlanta.

"The conditions described in the Georgia counties in which lynchings occurred can, of course, be paralleled in most of the communities in which lynchings occurred in other states in 1930. That there is a close relationship between economic and social conditions and the occurrence of lynchings I have no doubt.

"The lynching of the Negro, S. S. Mincey, in Montgomery county was an outrage. Of that there can be no doubt. If the citizens of the county in which the crime was committed wish to display their indignation let them display it against the perpetrator of the crime rather than against those who are seeking the underlying reasons for such breaches of the laws of civil society in an effort to suggest ways and means to minimize their likelihood.

"I do not wish either the University of Georgia or the Georgia Press association to feel embarrassed by statements which I make. If Georgians are not able to bear saying the truth, none regrets it more than I do, for both my father and my mother were Georgia-born and I have a real affection for the state. But I believe the truth should be and is of paramount importance and the truth is that Georgia's lynching record is a blot upon a fair name and one which really patriotic Georgia citizens should wish removed."

SAVANNAH, GA.
NEWS

FEB 20 1932

EDITOR TALKS ON LYNCHING SUBJECT

PRESS INSTITUTE MEETS

Journalism Teacher Speaks at Athens Meeting

ATHENS, Ga., Feb. 19 (AP).—George Fort Milton, editor of the Chattanooga News, today told the Georgia Press Institute its members shared responsibility for "reorganization of the social viewpoint" so that justice may prevail over hate and fear in fixing responsibility for crime.

He spoke on the same program with Raymond B. Nixon, head of the journalism department at Emory University, who told the editors proper interpretation through newspapers of the wisdom of scholars is the only means by which they may solve its growing economic and social problems.

Mr. Milton, a noted writer and chairman of the Southern commission for study of lynching, said that organization had found strong evidence of a direct relation between the prevalence of lynchings and the economic, social and educational status of communities.

"People spiritually as well as economically underprivileged," he said, "seemed quite ready to illuminate their drab, narrow, fruitless lives by the excitements and emotional releases of the burning torch and the screaming victim."

He illustrated with reports from agents of the commission on conditions in Georgia communities where lynchings have occurred in recent years.

Mr. Nixon said newspapers and press associations had been the principal stabilizing influences in the present economic crisis, acquainting men and women with the "characters, failings and necessities" of their neighbors.

He said the task confronting the editor was that of ferreting out the kind of intellectual leadership needed.

"That leadership I believe," he continued, "is to be found among unbiased thinkers in colleges and universities and in our own newspaper offices. Only the wisdom of scholars who have the results of years of study and research at their disposal combined with the technique of editors who know the art of interpreting wisdom to the public, can enable us to solve problems so complex they tax human intelligence."

He named three editors and three college presidents, Walter Lippmann, Claude G. Bowers, James Truslow Adams, Dr. Glenn Frank, Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler and Dr. Harry W. Chase, as men "whom you will recognize as having a far clearer conception of the real issues confronting our nation and the world today than any of the commonly mentioned candidates for the presidential nomination of either party."

The journalism teacher said newspapers should bring important news into closer relation with the reader, to show how an event affects him personally.

He said benefits would accrue from a public school course to teach intelligent newspaper reading for the information of future citizens.

The radio, he said, has inherent limitations of permanence, convenience and selection, and time for rumination and reflection, which will prevent it from taking the newspapers' place as the principal means of disseminating news and views.

Durham, N. C. Sun
Friday, March 4, 1932

Lynching Suggested

The kidnaping of the Lindberghs' baby has brought forth a demand for the extreme penalty for persons committing the crime. It has been suggested that lynching of the guilty party or parties would meet with general approval. All of which shows the extent to which the public is aroused. Some of those who have suggested a lynching have been severe critics of the South, and have been the strongest pleaders for drastic action to stop that crime. Now, under the excitement of the Lindbergh kidnaping, they forget all the things they have said about lynching, and are ready to form a neck-tie party. If it is wrong to lynch persons guilty of attacking women, by what line of reasoning does it become right to lynch a kidnaper?

Lynchings—1932

Discussions.

White Press, (Southern)

3625

Pitiful Picture Painted by Milton Of Lynch-Ridden Communities

Constitution 2-21-32

Atlanta Ga.

ATHENS, Ga., Feb. 19.—(AP)—George Fort Milton, editor of the Chattanooga News and prominent southern writer, in his speech before the Press Institute Friday, said that evidence had been found indicating a "greater likelihood of lynchings in communities living upon the fringe of hunger and of heartbreak."

He discussed reports of lynching investigators who pictured drab conditions existing in several Georgia communities in which lynchings have occurred in recent years. Investigators of the southern commission on the study of lynching, he said, illustrated the point in reports on several Georgia lynchings.

"A negro named George Grant was shot to death in a cell in the county jail at Darien, September 8, 1930," he said. The editor said that for a series of years, Darien had declined as a port, as a rice-growing center and "in many other ways the county's economic structure had been progressively breaking down.

"James Irwin paid the final price of mob law at Ocilla, on January 31, 1930," he continued, adding that bank deposits in Irwin county in 1929 were "but $33.45 per inhabitant, compared with $155.89 for Georgia as a whole." In that year, Mr. Milton added, only seven income tax returns were made in the entire county.

"Aside from its winter resort qualities, the economic backwardness of Thomasville, the scene of the lynching of Willie Kirkland, was equally obvious. The agricultural methods of the county were almost primitive. 'Rural dwellers made a living,' this particular case study related, 'for the most part by tilling the soil with one-horse plows, briar hooks and long-handle hoes.'"

Ancient Farm Methods.

Mr. Milton said the report said agricultural methods of "half a century ago" were followed and that "in many respects these rural dwellers have made but little advance since 1880. They produce but little more now than then. They live in poor houses, many of them mere hulls which do not stand upright. . . . They send their children to a one-teacher school now and then," he further quoted the report.

Discussing the death by violence in July, 1930, of "S. S. Mincey, a negro politician of considerable standing in his state," who was slain at his home near Ailey, in Montgomery county, Mr. Milton said:

"Mincey had irritated some local political applicants by his unwillingness to indorse them for appointment. There was some question as to whether death by violence was lynching or murder, but this does not interfere with the economic analysis.

"Montgomery county is a farming county, with only a small scattering of automobile mechanics, filling station attendants and professional men. The county is extremely poor. Its per capita production in 1924 was only $130.92, compared with the Georgia state average of $310.78. . . . Its tax valuation per inhabitant was only about half of that of the state as a whole."

Commission investigators, he said, gave the following picture of its population:

Klan Has Failed.

"'The poor whites of Montgomery and surrounding counties are poor indeed. The klan which they accepted as a way out has failed them; cotton is cheap; there is no prosperous city to run off to at will. They are emaciated looking, and they with their wives and children grow old while young.

"'Mothers with sunken chests and practically no teeth, little babies in arms with scabs on their heads and running sores about their ears, boys chewing tobacco before they are half grown and girls staring and popping their gum, and men, women and children with dirty clothes and unkempt persons seething fatalism and pessimism are to be seen on every hand.

"'Now and then an intoxicated fellow breaks the monotony, only to add to the sordidness of the picture. One Saturday afternoon at a little town between Ailey and Ocilla, a snaggled-toothed white mother carrying a 6-month-old baby with a stick of candy in its mouth, stumbled over a half-grown pig just out of a street wallow midway between the bank and the postoffice. There is much of frontier in this part of Georgia, with the virility of the frontier lacking.'

Ignorant Emotionals.

"Not all of the communities which were the scenes of lynching represent such intellectual, social and economic poverty as was found in those just described," said Mr. Milton. "But in almost every instance studied, investigators called attention to the existence of a large group of ignorant, emotionally directed, one might say almost criminally-minded people, eager to burn and hang."

The editor said solution of the lynching problem calls for quickening of the machinery of the law to prevent threatened lynchings and when they are not prevented, to bring "due penalty upon their perpetrators." He said the more important phase of the problem is to reorganize the social viewpoint of the south. "This," he added, "involves substituting satisfaction and contentment for hunger and heartbreak in such places as Ocilla, Ailey and Darien. It involves the re-education of our people."

FAIRMONT, W. VA
TIMES

JAN 10 1932

Blame for Lynching Fixed Upon Political-Minded Or Irresponsible Sheriffs

Southern Editor Claims Most Cases Could Be Prevented By Officers

By GEORGE HATCHER
Central Press Correspondent

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan 9—"In the majority of cases in which the victim of a mob is taken from a sheriff or jail, the lynching takes place because of one of two things—either the sheriff or officer in charge is lacking in courage or he doesn't want to do anything that would lead to a loss of votes in the next election."

Such is the opinion of Julian La-Rose Harris, eminent son of the late Joel Chandler Harris, creator of Uncle Remus. Harris' assertion was made in connection with the recent announcement of findings of the southern commission on lynching, which disclosed that two of 21 persons lynched in 1930 were innocent beyond all doubt and that 11 others possibly were not guilty. And further, of the persons lynched last year, less than 23 per cent were charged with criminal assault.

National Reputation

Harris, who is news editor of The Atlanta Constitution, is a member of the commission. He is noted throughout the nation for the vigorous fight he has made against lynchings and for justice to the negro. Like his father, who devoted much of his newspaper writings to excoriating racial injustice, Harris, as editor and publisher of the Columbus Enquirer-Sun in 1926, won the Pulitzer prize with his editorials against the Ku Klux Klan and mob violence.

"It has been shown time after time when an officer of the law is determined to uphold his oath of office, there is no lynching," Harris points out in an interview. "In one case of recent record," he adds, "a frail but fearless wife of a Tennessee sheriff prevented a gang of cowardly mobsters from lynching a prisoner. Although unarmed in her successful defiance of the lawless gang, she had two allies—loyalty to trust and the law."

Harris' Views

"When sheriffs and other men who have been entrusted to uphold the law realize that mobs are composed of potential murderers and law breakers and that duty comes ahead of neighborhood sentiment, there will be no lynchings," Harris asserts. "In many thinly populated counties and communities, it is impossible to prevent mobs from gathering, but no matter how sparsely settled a section is, the right type of sheriff or other officers can, in 99 cases out of 100, prevent the rape of the law by a gang of misled men, in whom a spirit of vengeance and race hatred has been aroused.

"An ounce of well-aimed prevention is worth more than many pounds of well-intended pamphlets issued by even such a frank and open-minded commission as the one which recently made public its findings."

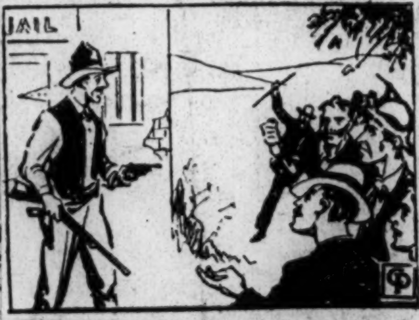
Referring to a conference at the White House a short time ago, at which a negro delegation urged President Hoover to give his active support to anti-lynching legislation, similar to the Volstead act in congress, Harris contended that such action "might well tend to increase lynching instead of eliminating the evil."

"The lynching question is not one for the federal government to handle," Harris maintains. "Its solution lies wholly in the hands of the various states. Federal anti-lynching legislation would, in my opinion, create the same situation that now exists under prohibition, providing an additional loophole for such sheriffs as are disinclined to protect prisoners against violence. Lynchings must and will be stopped by the states."

Besides Harris, members of the southern commission on lynching include Dr. George Fort Milton, editor Episcopal Church, South; Dr. W. J. King, book editor of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South;

Dr. W. J. McGlothlin, president of the Southern Baptist convention, and president of Furman University; Dr. Howard W. Odum, of the University of North Carolina, and Alex Spence, lawyer, of Dallas, Tex. An advisory committee of negro educators includes Dr. John Hope, president of Atlanta University; Dr. Benjamin F. Hubert, president of the Georgia State College; Dr. Charles J. Johnson, department of social science, Fisk University; Dr. R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, and Dr. Monroe Work, of Tuskegee Institute.

Julian LaRose Harris



IT HAS BEEN SHOWN TIME AFTER TIME WHEN AN OFFICER OF THE LAW IS DETERMINED TO UPHOLD HIS OATH OF OFFICE, THERE IS NO LYNCHING

Summarized, the main features of the commission's report—the fruit of a year of careful study—are as follows:

Men Declared Innocent

1. Two of 21 negroes lynched in 1930 were certainly innocent and 11 others were possibly so.

2. There is real doubt of the guilt of at least half the victims of mob violence.

3. Less than one-fourth of the persons lynched since 1890 have been accused of assaults upon white women.

4. Claim that lynchings are necessary because courts do not convict negroes for their crimes is found to be fallacious.

5. Mob leaders can be identified without difficulty, although grand jury indictments are seldom brought.

6. The rate of lynchings per thousand of negro population is highest in sparsely settled areas.

7. There is a direct relationship between lack of education, economic status and lynching danger.

8. Lynchings have decreased from 255 in 1892 to the low mark of 10 in 1929, and to an average of 17 per year for the past six years.

9. Of the persons lynched in 1930, less than 23 per cent were charged with criminal assault.

Charleston, S. C., Evening Post
Friday, February 19, 1932

Reorganization of Viewpoint Urged

Athens, Ga., Feb. 19. (AP)—Reorganization of the south's social viewpoint so "justice rather than hysteria, hate and fear, will control the adjudication of responsibility for crime" was recommended as a partial solution to the lynching problem today by a southern newspaper editor.

The editor, George Fort Milton of the Chattanooga (Tenn.) News, an outstanding southern writer and chairman of the southern commission on the study of lynchings spoke here before the Georgia press institute and said the commission's investigators had found "evidence of a rather extraordinary type' to indicate the greater likelihood of lynchings in communities living upon the fringe of hunger and of heartbreak."

"People, spiritually as well as economically underprivileged," he added, "seemed quite ready to illuminate their drab, narrow, fruitless lives by the excitements and emotional releases of burning torch and shrieking victim."

He used a series of Georgia lynchings to demonstrate his point.

The solution of the lynching problem, Milton went on, lies in two types of action. One he said is the quickening of the machinery of law to prevent threatened lynchings and punish those who perpetrate them, and the other his recommended reorganization of the south's social viewpoint.

BANNER
Athens Ga
FEB 19 1932

PROHIBITION AND LYNCHING TOPICS AT PRESS MEET

Georgia Newspaper Men And Women Continue Sessions Here

SENATOR LEWIS IS SATURDAY SPEAKER

Luncheon Given Friday At State College Of Agriculture

Georgia newspapermen and women attending the fifth annual Press Institute at the University of Georgia here Friday morning heard addresses on the control of liquor consumption in Sweden, the qualifications of a "Master Publisher," and the causes of lynchings as found by a special investigating commission.

Friday's sessions were held at the Commerce-Journalism building with Mark Ethridge, chairman of the institute, presiding. A luncheon was given the visitors at the Georgia State College of Agriculture at noon after which the forum discussions were resumed.

James Hamilton Lewis, United States senator from Illinois, will address the institute and the public at the University chapel Saturday at 10:20 o'clock. He is the Washington day speaker for the University. Other addresses scheduled for Saturday include that of H. T. McIntosh, editor of the Albany Herald, at 9:30; Herman Roe, field representative of the National Editorial association, who spoke Friday on "The Master Publisner." His Saturday address comes at 11:10 o'clock; Miss Susan Myrick, of The Macon Telegraph, at 12:00 o'clock. A luncheon will be given at 1:15 at the Georgian by the Savannah Morning News and the Savannah Evening Press.

Those on the program for Friday noon and afternoon includes Raymond B. Nixon of Emory; Edward C. Crouse, of the University of Georgia; Dr. Gertrude R. Brigham, of Brenau.

Mrs. Seydell Speaks

Mrs. Mildred Seydell, writer for the Atlanta Georgian, told the institute that official statistics show a decrease in drunkenness and in crime in Sweden since that country adopted a liquor control system in 1917.

Mrs. Seydell went to Stockholm last summer to study the Brat system, the name given to the liquor regulations of Sweden. Under these regulations, about which she said "there was no united opinion as to their virtue," beer of stronger alcoholic content than 3.2 percent is prohibited. Spirituous liquors are sold by government-controlled companies financed by private capital.

"John Bergvall, director of the Stockholm system companies, declares that the liquor regulations work no hardships, are fair and just, and that they are for the purpose of stamping out bootlegging and of destroying the old saloon. He claims success, as all those of temperate tastes can obtain alcoholic beverages of the very best quality at moderate cost and there is not the incentive to bootleg—there being no money in it; and when the companies came into existence the old saloons were closed and were opened up as people's restaurants, where nourishing food and the one alcoholic drink permitted by law can be obtained at very reasonable prices. The restaurants serve beers and wines freely, but no strong alcoholic beverage is served without the order of a hot meal."

Mrs. Seydell said the beer manufactured in the breweries there is non-intoxicant. She said "there is less unemployment in Sweden per capita than in other countries. It is stated that this is because of the large breweries which are doing such excellent business that it gives employment to thousands of men."

DISCUSSES LYNCHING

George Fort Milton, editor of the Chattanooga News and prominent southern writer, said that evidence had been found indicating a "greater likelihood of lynchings in communities living upon the fringe of hunger and of heartbreak."

He discussed reports of lynching investigators who pictured drab conditions existing in several Georgia communities in which lynchings have occurred in recent years.

Investigators of the Southern Commission on the study of lynching, he said, illustrated the point in reports on several Georgia lynchings.

"Not all of the communities which were the scenes of lynching represent such intellectual, social and economic poverty as was found in those described," said Mr Milton. "But in almost every instance studied, investigators called attention to the existence of a large group of ignorant, emotionally directed, one might say almost criminally-minded people, eager to burn and hang."

The editor said solution of the lynching problem calls for quickening of the machinery of the law to prevent threatened lynchings and when they are not prevented, to bring "due penalty upon their perpetrators." He said the more important phase of the problem is to reorganize the social viewpoint of the south. This he added, "involves substituting satisfaction and contentment for hunger and heartbreak in such places as Ocilla, Ailey and Darien. It invoves the re-education of our peope."

The 'Master Publisher'

Mr. Roe took the master farmer movement as the basis from which to draw comparisons for "The Master Publisher"—the subject of his address.

In defining his conception of a 'master publisher', Mr. Roe said that a 'master publisher' of a country weekly recognizes that his newspaper in his community's greatest public utility institution: that he serves his paper best who serves his community best; who seeks first the favor of his constituency through service and then justly expects that all other needful things will be added unto him; who aims to gather all the news that is fit to print in every field of activity in the community, placing special emphasis on constructive farm news and school activities; who aims every week to cultivate every possible source of news and to produce a paper teeming with human interest; who is fair, tolerant, impartial; who produces a paper so attractive in typographical appearance that it is a credit to its community; who renders genuine service to retail merchants as their advertising counsel and agency".

Opening Session

W. T. Anderson, editor of The Macon Telegraph and The Macon Evening News, spoke at the opening session of the institute Thursday night at Memorial hall. He criticized the existing libel laws in Georgia, declaring that they operate against the press, in that they place it at the mercy of schemers seeking to obtain damages for publication of damaging news or editorial matter in the papers. He said the only defense of the press lies in the good sense and fairness of the jury. Mr. Anderson said that the experience of his own newspapers bears out his contention that juries, by appreciating the good intentions of the press, have saved it from payment of ruinous damages as a result of innocent publication of news stories which are libelous, under the existing laws. He said that his papers have been involved in damage suits aggregating a half million dollars because of innocent publication of libelous matter, but have, thanks to the fairness of juries, actually paid out less than $300 in cash as a result.

Esential In Georgia

The Macon editor said that freedom of the press is essential in Georgia "as a means of progress, as a means of cleanliness in government, in making citizenship as pleasant as possible." He pointed out that the press, however, has a responsibility toward the people who defend its freedom in the jury box. The press should be fair, tolerant, accurate in news reporting and honest in editorial comment. In following such a course, the public will come to value the press and to aid it in fighting the battles for human progress, even against libel laws which he contends are discriminatory and unfair.

The meeting Thursday night was opened with an address by President S. V. Sanford of the University of Georgia, who introduced the chairman of the institute, Mark Ethridge, managing editor of The Macon Telegraph. Jack Williams, president of the Georgia Press association responded. Music by Hugh L. Hodgson, head of the music department at the university and selections by the glee club chorus and refreshments, served by the women's journalistic fraternity were entertainment fea.

Barnesville, Ga., News-Gazette
Thursday, March 10, 1932

BRUISED TOES

Whenever we take a step forward, we step on somebody's toes.

The Press Institute, held at Athens recently, took a step forward when it invited George Fort Milton, Chattanooga editor, to speak on lynching. It stepped on the toes of Montgomery county, Georgia, in general, and on the toes of State Senator Hugh Peterson, of that county, in particular.

The damage was done when Mr. Milton, who headed the committee which made a study of lynching last year, used a lynching in Montgomery county as a case study to illustrate his remarks concerning this peculiarly southern institution.

Feeling that his toes had been wantonly bruised, Mr. Peterson winced and cried aloud. Instead of denying the lynching—which was undeniable—or defending the mob—which was indenfensible—Mr. Peterson began a campaign of vilification against Mr. Milton, Mark Ethridge, managing editor of the Macon Telegraph, which was host to the speaker, and the University of Georgia, where the speech was delivered.

Mr. Peterson and some of his fellow citizens take the attitude that Mr. Milton was imported from Tennessee for the express purpose of insulting Montgomery county. A Tennessean, they hold, has no right to criticise a Georgia lynching; let him stay where he belongs and criticise Tennessee lynchings. We fail to see the justice of the complaint.

In fact, who is to question Georgia lynching? If a Northerner were to do so, he would be roundly denounced for sectionalism and told to clean up the city gangsters first. If another Southerner, as we see in this case, becomes specific, he is curtly told to stay on his side of the state line. If a native Georgian essays such criticism, he is accused of high treason.

Perhaps criticism, like charity, should begin at home, but how many citizens dare question that act of a local mob?

Until lynching ceases to exist as a social problem, pitiless publicity . . . .

should be given to the circumstances of every such crime, no matter where it occurs and no matter whose toes are bruised.

Lynchings-1932

3626

White Press. (Southern.)

Discussions.

nasville, Ga., Press
iday, March 4, 1932

TENN. EDITOR ATTACKS GA.

(From the Montgomery Monitor)

In an address before the Georgia Press Institute, a gathering sponsored by the University of Georgia at Athens jointly with the Georgia Press Association, a citizen of the State of Tennessee, George Fort Milton, at the request and invitation of the organization, appeared before said body and, according to press reports of the meeting, addressed himself to social conditions in certain South Georgia rural sections "living upon the fringe of hunger and heartbreak" filled with a type of citizens which he described as "criminally-minded people, eager to burn and hang." He pointed out certain South Georgia communities as out-standing examples of general conditions prevailing in this section of the state. "'Ocilla, Ailey and Darien" were made the centers of his propaganda as sponsored by the state supported institution jointly with the Georgia Press Association, a group of Georgia newspapers and periodicals headed actively by Hon. Hal. M. Stanley, Commissioner of Commerce and Labor of Georgia, an office to which he is elected by popular vote.

Citizens of Montgomery and surrounding counties, indignant at such unwarranted attack upon their "virility," honor and integrity have appealed to the Governor of Georgia, actively in command of the controlling forces of the University of Georgia, as well as their Chief Executive, for redress.

News accounts of the incident as well as letters to the Governor and Commissioner of Commerce and Labor are given below:

Athens, Ga., Feb. 19.—George Fort Milton, editor of the Chattanooga News and prominent southern writer, in his speech before the Press Institute Friday, said that evidence had been found indicating a "greater likelihood of lynchings in communities living upon the fringe of hunger and heartbreak."

He discussed reports of lynching investigators who pictured drab conditions existing in several Georgia communities in which lynchings have occurred in recent years. Investigators of the southern commission on the study of lynching, he said, illustrated the point in reports on several Georgia lynchings.

"A negro named George Grant was shot to death in a cell in the county jail at Darien, September 8, 1930," he said. The editor said that for a series of years, Darien had declined as a port, as a rice-growing center and "in many other ways the county's economic structure had been progressively breaking down.

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Mr. Milton said the report said agricultural methods of "half a century ago" were followed and that "in many respects these rural dwellers have made but little advance since 1880. They produce but little more now than then. They live in poor houses, many of them mere hulls which do not stand upright. - - - They send their children to a one-teacher school now and then," he further quoted the report.

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February 24, 1932.

Hon. Richard B. Russell, Jr.,
Governor of Georgia,
Atlanta, Ga.,

Dear Governor:

I respectfully call your attention to the inclosed article which has appear in numerous newspapers throughout the State. This article conveys an impression of Montgomery County that facts will not justify. This propaganda is sponsored by the State University, which is supported by the taxpayers of Montgomery and other counties of the State. The State University is under control of a Board of Regents which has complete jurisdiction in the affairs of the University. As a member of this Board, and in particular since you have had complete power in the appointment of the present Board, you have controlling power over its activities.

In behalf of my native county, Montgomery, and my native town Ailey, and at the request of numerous citizens of both, I ask that you bring this matter to the attention of your Board and have proper action taken to correct this propaganda which is false, contrary to facts and an insult to the honor and integrity of our people.

Thanking you for your prompt action in this matter, I am, with best wishes,

Sincerely,
Hugh Peterson, Jr.

Copy to
Mr. W. D. Anderson, Chairman
Board of Regents,
Macon, Ga.

Copy to
Mr. Hal Stanley, Commissioner of Commerce and Labor
Secretary Georgia Press Association,
State Capitol Atlanta, Ga.

February 24, 1932.

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Thanking you for your prompt action, I am, with best wishes,

Sincerely,
Hugh Peterson, Jr.

Copy to
Mr. Jack Williams, President Georgia Press Association,
Waycross, Ga.

Copy to
Governor Richard B. Russell, Jr.,
Atlanta, Ga.

Chattanooga, Tenn. News
Wednesday, March 2, 1932

LYNCHING RECORD BLOT ON GEORGIA NAME — MILTON

Chattanooga Editor Answers Protest to Assertion Violences Take Place in Poor Sections.

Macon, Ga., March 2.—(A. P.)—A charge Georgia's lynching record is "a blot on a fair name" is made by George Fort Milton, editor of The Chattanooga News, in reply to a protest against unflattering descriptions of economic conditions in Montgomery county, Georgia, which he gave in a diagnosis of lynching causes.

The protest was made by Hugh Peterson, Montgomery county legislator and editor of the Montgomery Monitor, in letters to Gov. Richard B. Russell, Jr., of Georgia; Jack Williams, editor of the Waycross Journal-Herald and president of the Georgia Press association, and W. D. Anderson of Macon, chairman of the board of regents of the University of Georgia.

ern Commission on Lynching, spoke February 19 before the Georgia Press association at the University of Georgia and said evidence had been found indicating "a greater likelihood of lynchings in communities living upon the fringe of hunger and of heartbreak."

Pictures Poverty in Area.

He cited examples and said a Negro politician had been slain or lynched in Montgomery county, quoting the report of a Southern Commission investigator which said "the poor whites of Montgomery and surrounding counties are poor indeed." The investigator gave a picture of low economic status.

Mr. Peterson, in his protest, said a newspaper article on Mr. Milton's address "conveyed an impression of Montgomery county that facts will not justify."

He urged that the governor bring his letter to the attention of the university board of regents and "have proper action taken to correct this propaganda, which is false, contrary to facts and an insult to the honor and integrity of our people."

Mr. Milton replied to the protest in a statement to the Macon Telegraph saying he had "thorough confidence in the factual accuracy" of what the Lynching Commission investigators reported.

The Chattanooga editor reiterated that the Montgomery county case was "an outrage" and suggested citizens wishing to display indignation "display it against the perpetrator of the crime rather than against those who are seeking underlying reasons for such breaches of laws of civil society in an effort to suggest ways and means to minimize their likelihood."

Text of Statement.

Mr. Milton's statement to the Macon Telegraph follows:

"The descriptions of economic conditions in the Georgia counties referred to in my Athens speech were taken verbatim from detailed case reports on those lynchings made to the Southern Commission to Study Lynchings by our trained staff investigators.

"I have thorough confidence in their factual accuracy. You may secure further details by communicating with Dr. W. W. Alexander, director of the Commission on Interracial-Co-operation, Standard building, Atlanta.

"The conditions described in the Georgia communities in which lynchings occurred can, of course, be paralleled in most of the communities in which lynchings occurred in other States in 1930. That there is a close relationship between economic and social conditions and the occurrence of lynchings I have no doubt.

Truth Is Paramount.

"The lynching of the Negro S. S. Mincey in Montgomery county was an outrage. Of that there can be no doubt. If the citizens of the county in which the crime was committed wish to display indignation, let them display it against the perpetrators of the crime, rather than against those who are seeking the underlying reasons for such breaches of the laws of civilized society, in an effort to suggest ways and means to minimize their likelihood.

"I do not wish either the University of Georgia or the Georgia Press Association to feel embarrassed by the statements which I made. If Georgians are not able to bear the saying of the truth, there is none who regrets it more than I do, for both my father and my mother were Georgia-born, and I have a real affection for the State. But I believe that truth should be, and is, of paramount importance, and the truth is that Georgia's lynching record is a blot upon her fair name, and one which really patriotic Georgia leaders should wish removed."

Russell to Consider Affair.

Mount Vernon, Ga., March 2.—(A. P.)—Hugh Peterson, Jr., editor of the Montgomery Monitor, today made public Gov. Russell's reply to a letter the editor wrote complainnig of a description of his county made by George Fort Milton, editor of The Chattanooga News, in a recent speech.

Mr. Milton spoke at the press institute of the Georgia Press association, which met recently a tthe University of Georgia.

Mr. Peterson, who is a brother-in-law of the governor and also a state senator from this district, urged Russell to bring the matter to the attention of the board of regents of the University of Georgia, since the speech was made on the university campus.

The Chattanooga editor, discussing what he said was a relationship between lynching and economic and social conditions, quoted from an investigator's report describing the "poor whites of Montgomery and surrounding counties" as "unkept persons, seething fatalism and pessimism."

In his reply to Mr. Peterson, the governor said he would "inquire as to the part which the university takes in this press institute and if it appears that any institution of the state government or official is concerned in the dissemination of such statements, I shall submit it to the board of regents for their attention at the next regular meeting."

Atlanta, Ga., Journal
Wednesday, March 2, 1932

RUSSELL PROMISES INQUIRY ON SPEECH BY EDITOR MILTON

University Regents May Be Asked to Act on Peterson Protest

MOUNT VERNON, Ga., March 2.—(AP)—Hugh Peterson, Jr., editor of the Montgomery Monitor, Wednesday made public Governor Russell's reply to a letter the editor wrote complaining of a description of his county made by George Fort Milton, editor of the Chattanooga News, in a recent speech at the press institute of the Georgia Press Association, which met recently at the University of Georgia.

Mr. Peterson, who is a brother-in-law of the governor, and also a state senator from this district, urged the governor to bring the matter to the attention of the board of regents of the University of Georgia, since the speech was made on the university campus.

Lynching and Social Conditions

The Chattanooga editor, discussing what he said was a relationship between lynching and economic and social conditions, quoted from an investigator's report describing the "poor whites of Montgomery and surrounding counties" as "unkempt persons, seething fatalism and pessimism."

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Senator Peterson said he was "convinced" the school of journalism of the university joined with the Press Association in inviting Mr. Milton to deliver the address. Mr. Peterson wrote also to Jack Williams, editor of the Waycross Journal-Herald, and president of the Press Association, and to Hal Stanley, secretary of the association, at the same time he wrote to the governor. He sent the letter also to W. D. Anderson.

Indignant Over Lynching

The lynching of a negro named Mincey in Montgomery County, Mr. Peterson said, does not warrant the criticism of the county made by Editor Milton.

"We are as indignant over this crime as is Editor Milton," he said. "We know almost to a moral certainty who lynched Mincey, but it is a case like that of Al Capone in Illinois. Knowing who did it and proving it are two different things. I am sure the board of regents of the state university will voice their protest and condemnation of any individual or organization that has so grossly wronged the county and community in which I live. I cannot see either how the Georgia Press Association can condone or attempt to excuse any speaker who comes to the state upon their invitation and libels it as Mr. Milton has done."

A charge that Georgia's lynching record is "a blot on a fair name" is made by Mr. Milton in reply to Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Milton, chairman of the southern commission on lynching, spoke February 19 before the Georgia Press Institute at the University of Georgia and said evidence had been found indicating "a greater likelihood of lynchings in communities living upon the fringe of hunger and of heartbreak."

He cited examples, and said a negro politician had been slain or lynched in Montgomery County, quoting the report of a southern commission investigator which said "the poor whites of Montgomery and surrounding counties are poor indeed." The investigator gave a picture of low economic status.

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In Other States Also

He added that conditions described in Georgia counties where lynchings occurred "can, of course, be paralleled in most of the communities in which lynchings occurred in other states in 1930. That there is a close relationship between economic and social conditions and the occurrence of lynchings I have no doubt."

The Chattanooga editor reiterated that the Montgomery County case was "an outrage," and suggested that citizens wishing to display indignation "display it against the perpetrators of the crime rather than against those who are seeking underlying reasons for such breaches of laws of civil society in an effort to suggest ways and means to minimize their likelihood."

"I believe," he added, "the truth should be and is of paramount importance and the truth is that Georgia's lynching record is a blot upon a fair name and one which really patriotic Georgia citizens should wish removed."

In his recent speech, he suggested as solutions of the lynching problem inclusion of quickening machinery of law to prevent threatened lynchings and to punish perpetrators. He said a more important phase was to reorganize the south's social viewpoint and that this involved "substituting satisfaction and contentment for hunger and heartbreak" in less favored communities.

DISPATCH
Cordele, Ga
MAR 3 1932

RUSSELL PROMISES INQUIRY ON SPEECH BY SDITOR MILTON

UNIVERSITY REGENTS MAY BE ASKED TO ACT ON PETERSON PROTEST

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Lynchings-1932

White Press, (Southern.)

3632

Discussions.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX.
NEWS

JAN 4 1932

Sheriffs Held to Blame In Number of Lynchings Probed by Commission

Julian Harris, Noted Editor, One of Group Which Reported Recently on Mob Hangings, Says Prevention Possible.

By GEORGE HATCHER
Central Press Correspondent

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 4.—"In the majority of cases in which the victim of a mob is taken from a sheriff or jail, the lynching takes place because of one of two things—either the sheriff or officer in charge is lacking in courage or he doesn't want to do anything that would lead to a loss of voters in the next election."

Such is the opinion of Julian LaRose Harris, eminent son of the late Joel Chandler Harris, creator of Uncle Remus. Harris' assertion was made in connection with the recent announcement of findings of the southern commission on lynching, which disclosed that two of 21 persons lynched in 1930 were innocent beyond all doubt and that 11 others possibly were not guilty. And, further, of the persons lynched last, less than 23 per cent were charged with criminal assault.

National Reputation.

Harris, who is news director of The Atlanta Constitution, is a member of the commission. He is noted throughout the Nation for the vigorous fight he has made against lynching and for justice to the negro. Like his father, who devoted much of his newspaper writings to excoriating racial injustice, Harris, as editor and publisher of th Columbus Enquirer-Sun in 1926, won the Pulitzer prize with his editorials against the Ku Klux Klan and mob violence.

"It has been shown time after time when an officer of the law is determined to uphold his oath of office, there is no lynching," Harris points out in an interview. "In one case of recent record," he adds, "a frail but fearless wife of a Tennessee sheriff prevented a gang of cowardly mobsters from lynching a prisoner. Although unarmed in her successful defiance of the lawless gang, she had two allies—loyalty to trust and the law."

Harris' View.

"When sheriffs and other men who have been entrusted to uphold the law realize that mobs are composed of potential murderers and law breakers and that duty comes ahead of neighborhood sentiment, there will be no lynchings," Harris asserts. "In many thinly populated counties and communities, it is impossible to prevent mobs from gathering, but no matter how sparsely settled a section is, the right type of sheriff or other officers can, in 99 cases out of 100, prevent the rape of the law by a gang of misled men, in whom a spirit of vengeance and race hatred has been aroused.

"An ounce of well-aimed prevention is worth more than many pounds of well-intended pamphlets issued by even such a frank and open-minded commission as the one which recently made public its findings."

Referring to a conference at the White House a short time ago, at which a negro delegation urged President Hoover to give his active support to anti-lynching legislation, similar to the Volstead act in Congress, Harris contended that such action "might well tend to increase lynching instead of eliminating the evil."

"The lynching question is not one for the Federal Government to handle," Harris maintains. "Its solution lies wholly in the hands of the various states. Federal anti-lynching legislation would, in my opinion, create the same situation that now exists under prohibition, providing an additional loophole for such sheriffs as are disinclined to protect prisoners against violence. Lynchings must and will be stopped by the states."

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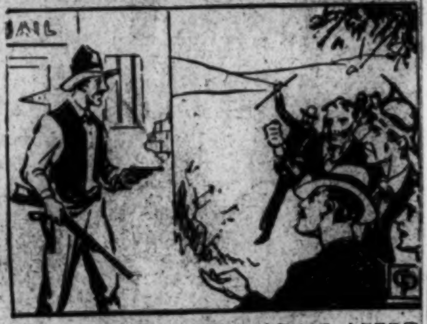

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Summarized, the main features of the commission's report — the fruit of a year of careful study—are as follows:

Men Declared Innocent.

1. Two of 21 negroes lynched in 1930 were certainly innocent and 11 others were possibly so.

2. There is real doubt of the guilt of at least half the victims of mob violence.

3. Less than one-fourth of the persons lynched since 1890 have been accused of assaults upon white women.

4. Claim that lynchings are necessary because courts do not convict negroes for their crimes is found to be fallacious.

5. Mob leaders can be identified without difficulty, although grand jury indictments are seldom brought.

6. The rate of lynchings per thousand of negro population is highest in sparsely settled areas.

7. There is a direct relationship between lack of education, economic status and lynching danger.

8. Lynchings have decreased from 255 in 1892 to the low mark of 10 in 1929, and to an average of 17 per year for the past six years.

9. Of the persons lynched in 1930, less than 23 per cent were charged with criminal assault.

HOUSTON, TEX.
POST DISPATCH

JAN 7 1932

Texas' Clea Lynching Record.

To THE HOUSTON ~~POST~~ DISPATCH:

HUNTSVILLE, Texas, Jan. 4.—When the people of Texas come to properly evaluate the many things for which they may be thankful during the year just closed, there is no single thing for which we can be more genuinely grateful than the fact that we have had no lynching within our borders during 1931. This is the only year, with the exception of 1925, since 1882 of which this can be said.

There were 13 lynchings in the United States during the year just passed and while we hang our heads in shame that a Christian Nation, such as we claim to be, should tolerate such savagery, we are duly thankful that Texas has a clean record. The elimination of lynching is an educational process and the press of the State has done and is doing magnificent work along this line, through contributed articles, editorials, etc. The Texas commission on interracial co-operation wants to thank the Houston Post-Dispatch fo its vigorous editorials and helpful attitude in stamping out this blackest crime in our civilization.

R. M. WOODS,
Advisory Director, Texas Interracial Commission.

GREENSBORO, N. C.
RECORD

JAN 4 1932

Texas' Lynchless Record.

Texas proves lynchings can be prevented. Nineteen thirty-one was a lynchless year in the Lone Star state, though in 1930 she was credited with three such crimes and she was pilloried before the world for the Sherman lynching riot that culminated in the burning of the county courthouse.

Vigilance and a determination to put down mob rule has brought the change. Twenty-one times during 1931, says an Austin dispatch, the Texas Rangers were hurried by train, automobile or airplane to what were thought to be danger spots.

The adjutant general, W. W. Sterling, a former captain of Texas Rangers, said: "We figured out it was better to be on hand before a mob started than after it had formed. * * * Give the sheriffs the credit. We only stood behind them and assured them we would back them up."

The southern commission on the study of lynchings credits Texas in the list of "prevented lynchings" in 1931, with protection by national guardsmen of a negro charged with murder at Mt. Pleasant, two charged with murder at Conroe, and one charged with criminal attack at Marshall.

The Texas record is one of which the officials and citizens of that great state may rightly be proud, and it is a challenge to the other states. Lynchings can be prevented. Texas shows the way.

DALLAS, TEX.
TIMES-HERALD

JAN 7 1932

A YEAR OF NO TEXAS LYNCHING

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Advisory director,
Texas interracial commission.

DALLAS, TEX.
TIMES-HERALD
JAN 10 1932

THE MOB SPIRIT STILL EXISTS.

TEXAS had no lynchings in 1931. This record is highly gratifying, but it need cause no one to feel that the lynching evil has been abolished in this state.

As Miss Olivin Davis, secretary of the Texas Council of the Association of Southern Women for Prevention of Lynching, points out, Texas must not yet feel complacent about its mob violence record.

During the year, nine persons were saved from death at the hands of mobs. This is a compliment to peace officers, but it shows that the spirit of mob violence still exists in this state.

Unless our law enforcement officers are vigilant and courageous, lynchings will occur in 1932. Officers must see that all prisoners are put in safe places, and they must be ready at all times to defy mobs. Moreover, when they feel that outside help is needed, they must not hesitate to ask for it.

When persons who are inclined to take the law into their own hands are shown that bullets will be used to stop mobs, and that the participants in lynchings will be punished, they will learn to exercise self-control and let the law take its course.

TIMES
Marlinton, W. Va
DEC 31 [illegible]

That War Time Lynching

Cousin Maggie Lockridge has straightened me out on the war time lynching of the negro slave, "Jim," belonging to her father, the late Squire John W. Warwick. Some weeks ago, I printed my hazy recollections of what I had heard as a child about the tragedy. I even got the man's name wrong—I called him uncle George.

Squire Warwick owned the Cloverlick plantation in Pocahontas County and another large plantation in Nelson County, Virginia. During the war, he lived in Nelson County.

There was a mill at Cloverlick, and Jim was the trusted miller. He was a man of middle age. His wife belonged to Colonel Gatewood, at Mt. Grove, and the Squire allowed Jim a horse to make trips regularly every two weeks to visit his family.

It was war times and the people were overwrought. Someone started a rumor that Jim was carrying messages and news to the union army on his visits home. A colored boy showed a fine knife and said that Jim had given it to him to "kill white people with."

Jim was arrested at his cabin on the Gatewood plantation one Sunday morning, while he was holding family prayer with his wife and their little ones. He was brought to the Huntersville jail. Pleas were made that the trial be postponed until Squire Warwick could be notified to answer for his man. This was not done. The first notice the Squire had was a letter from a minister, Rev. James E. Moore, telling of the lynching of poor Jim. The Squire read the letter to the family's nurse, a sister of Jim. She turned an ashy color and was silent. Then dramatically raising her hands she appealed to Hign Heaven to curse those who had a hand in the matter.

Jim was later taken from the jail and hanged to a hemlock tree that stood in the field now owned by Isaac Barlow, on the brow of the hill near the present abondoned road, a few hundred yards west of the crossing of Cummings Creek. His body was buried under the tree. The limb on which the poor man was hung soon failed and died.

It is said that while the mob was gathered to do their awful work, Rev. James E. Moore came along and pleaded with the men to at least wait until Squire Warwick could be notified, but they would not. The only thing they would grant the minister was a short time for prayer with the poor man whom they would soon murder.

WHEELING, W. VA.
REGISTER
JAN 3 1932

SHERIFFS HELD TO BLAME IN NUMBER OF LYNCHINGS PROBED BY COMMISSION

Julian Harris, Noted Editor, One of Group Which Reported Recently on Mob Hangings, Says Prevention Possible.

By GEORGE HATCHER
Central Press Correspondent

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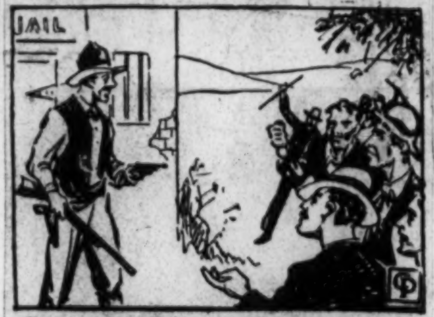

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4. Claim that lynchings are necessary because courts do not convict negroes for their crimes is found to be fallacious.
5. Mob leaders can be identified without difficulty, although grand jury indictments are seldom brought.
6. The rate of lynchings per thousand of negro population is highest in sparsely settled areas.
7. There is a direct relationship between lack of education, economic status and lynching danger.
8. Lynchings have decreased from 255 in 1892 to the low mark of 10 in 1929, and to an average of 17 per year for the past six years.
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Lynchings - 1932

Discussions.

White Press, (Southern)

Anderson, S. C., Record
Friday, December 30, 1932

Lynchings were fewer in 1932. Up to this time there had been only 11 lynchings in the country, against 14 last year. Two of these were white and the rest negroes.

Spartanbu[illegible]
Friday, December 30, 1932

Decrease in Lynchings

The country makes a better showing for 1932 in the number of lynchings. All told, 11 persons met death at the hands of mobs compared with 14 in 1931, a decline of more than 22 per cent.

Only one state, Florida, had more than one lynching during the year. South Carolina is included in the list of states with one blotch on its record. Outside the South Kansas and Ohio were the states in which lynchings took place.

With the exception of 1929 when there were 10 lynchings, 1932 and 1928 have the best records since statistics began to be collected in 1885. That the sentiment against this form of murder has gained in strength is shown by comparison of the total number of lynchings during the first ten years and the last ten of the statistical period. In 1885-94 there were 1,726 lynchings in the United States against 177 lynchings during 1923 to 1932, inclusive. The decrease will be further emphasized by comparing the 158 lynchings in the last ten years with the total of 4,333 since 1885. It may also be of interest to know that of this total South Carolina has less than 150 recorded against it.

The mob is an instrument of murder. The people of the South now so regard it. It is to be hoped that next year the country may have a better record and that the name of South Carolina may not be on the list of states in which these murders have been committed.

Mendenhall, Miss.
News
1-5-33

No Lynchings

One of the bright spots in the record of 1932 for Mississippi is her clear conscience on the mob violence problem. For years the South has been notorious for its lynching record, and this state has been as shameful as any other. Last year, however, Mississippi reported not a single lynching, certainly a rebuff to our northern critics.

Mob violence and its high crime, lynching, has been a southern problem since the Civil War. It was a problem in the early Western frontier, but in the West law and order have replaced mob rule. Now it seems the South is controlling its temper and allowing the law to take its course. Our clean record for 1932 is not only a prideful accomplishment for us as individuals, but an indication of our faith in the integrity of our courts.

Lynchings-1932.

Discussions.

White Press, Southern.

3640

Mobile, Ala., Register
Tuesday, May 17, 1932

DIXIE LYNCHINGS INCREASE WHILE U. S. SHOWS DROP

Study of Figures Over 40-Year Period Indicates 15 Per Cent Gain In South

UNIVERSITY, Ala., May 16.—While the number of lynchings per year in the United States has decreased over a forty-year period extending from 1889 to 1929. the percentage of the nation's lynchings occurring in the south has increased, according to Dr. E. W. Gregory, Jr., professor of sociology at the University of Alabama.

Writing for the University Bureau of Business Research, Dr. Gregory points out that lynching came into considerable prominence when it was discovered at the close of the year 1930 that the number of victims of mob violence in that year equalled the number for the two preceding years combined.

Mostly In South

Figures compiled by the Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching show that in the 40-year period studied in 14 southern states 82 per cent of the nation's lynching took place in the south in the decade ending 1899 while from 1925 to 1929 97.4 per cent took place in this section of the country. However, the average number per year in the country from 1889 to 1899 was 187.5, while from 1920 to 1929 the number was 63 per year.

The states having the largest number of lynchings in the 40-year period are Mississippi with 465; Georgia, 464; Texas, 364; and Louisiana, 349. In the period from 1889 to 1929 a total of 3,703 persons met their deaths by mob violence of which 2,916 were negroes and 787 were whites.

254 Never Were Arrested

It was revealed that of the 254 persons lynched from 1921 to 1929 112 never came in custody of the law, 74 were taken from officers outside of jails, and 68 were taken from jails. For the 40-year period, the accusations ranged as follows: murder 37.7 percent felonious assaults 5.8. rape 16.7; attempted rape 6.7; insult to a white person, 1.8; and all other offenses 24.2.

"That the problem of lynching in the south is definitely related to the problem of race relations is indicated by the fact that in the last three decades approximately 90 per cent of the persons lynched in the

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DECATUR, ALA.
DAILY
MAY 20 1932

LYNCHINGS SHOW BIGGER AVERAGE

The Nation Decreases South Increases In Forty Years

UNIVERSITY, Ala., May 20—(AP)—Dr. E. W. Gregory Jr., professor of sociology at the University of Alabama, has reported results of research which show that while the number of lynchings per year in the United States has decreased over a 40-year period, the percentage of the nation's lynchings in the South has increased.

Dr. Gregory's research study embraced the 40-year period from 1889 to 1929 and disclosed in addition that at the close of the year 1930 the number of victims of mob violence in that year equalled the number for the two preceding years.

Drawing figures from records compiled by the Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching, Dr Gregory said that for the decade ending in 1899,82 per cent of the nation's lynchings took place in the South. He compared this with the higher percentage of 97.4 in the fourteen Southern states for the years 1925 to 1929.

To offset this, he showed that the average number per year in the country from 1889 to 1899 was 187.5, while for the ten year period, 1920 to 1329, the average number was 63 per year.

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MONTGOMERY, ALA.
JOURNAL & TIMES
MAY 20 1932

GATHERS DATA ON LYNCHINGS

Gregory's Study Shows Decrease But South's Percentage Gains

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Albany-Decatur, Ala. Daily
Friday, May 20, 1932

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MOBILE, ALA.
REGISTER
MAY 17 1932

DIXIE LYNCHINGS INCREASE WHILE U. S. SHOWS DROP

Study of Figures Over 40-Year Period Indicates 15 Per Cent Gain In South

UNIVERSITY, Ala., May 16.—While the number of lynchings per year in the United States has decreased over a forty-year period extending from 1889 to 1929. the percentage of the nation's lynchings occurring in the south has increased, according to Dr. E. W. Gregory, Jr. professor of sociology at the University of Alabama.

Writing for the University Bureau of Business Research, Dr. Gregory points out that lynching came into considerable prominence when it was discovered at the close of the year 1930 that the number of victims of mob violence in that year equalled the number for the two preceding years combined.

Mostly In South

Figures compiled by the Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching show that in the 40-year period studied in 14 southern states 82 per cent of the nation's lynching took place in the south in the decade ending 1899 while from 1925 to 1929 97.4 per cent took place in this section of the country. However, the average number per year in the country from 1889 to 1899 was 187.5, while from 1920 to 1929 the number was 63 per year.

The states having the largest number of lynchings in the 40-year period are Mississippi with 465; Georgia, 464; Texas, 364; and Louisiana, 349. In the period from 1889 to 1929 a total of 3,703 persons met their deaths by mob violence of which 2,916 were negroes and 787 were whites.

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Anniston, Ala. Star
Friday, May 20, 1932

SOUTH INCREASING PERCENTAGE OF NATION'S LYNCHING TOTALS

Some facts in regard to lynchings that should give citizens of the South pause are revealed by Dr. E. W. Gregory, Jr., professor of sociology in the University of Alabama, in a recent statement covering mob killing statistics for a forty-year period ending in 1929. According to the data gathered by Dr. Gregory, the number of lynchings has been decreasing the country over during this time, but the percentage of the nation's total recorded in the South has been increasing.

The nation as a whole, it seems, is showing improvement in the matter of lynchings and a tendency to yield to enlightened public sentiment in regard to the nefarious practice of illegal executions. But the South is not keeping pace with the rest of the country in this respect. On the contrary this section has contributed a larger percentage of the lynchings in recent years than was the case a few decades ago.

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Figures compiled by the Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching show that in the forty-year period studied in fourteen Southern states 82 per cent of the nation's lynching took place in the South in the decade ending 1899, while from 1925 to 1929 it was found that 97.4 per cent were in this section of the country. However, the average number per year in the country from 1889 to 1899 was 187.5, while from 1920 to 1929 the number was 63 per year.

The states having the largest number of lynchings in the forty-year period are Mississippi, with 465; Georgia, 464; Texas, 364; and Louisiana, 349. In the period from 1889 to 1929 a total of 3,703 people met their deaths by mob violence of which 2,916 were negroes and 787 were whites.

It was revealed that of the 254 persons lynched from 1921 to 1929 there were 112 that never came in custody of the law; 74 were taken from officers outside of jails, and 68 were taken from jails.

"That the problem of lynching in the South is definitely related to the problem of race relations is indicated by the fact that in the last three decades approximately 90 per cent of the persons lynched in the South were negroes," Dr. Gregory said.

The facts here presented are to the discredit of the Southland and it is to be hoped that anti-lynching sentiment will grow in this section to such an extent that we shall see a decrease in the number of lynchings in this section in proportion to that reported in other parts of the country.

Chattanooga, Tenn.
NEWS
MAY 1 8 1932

The Idea Must Change

WE HAVE received a letter from a young woman, whose name we shall omit, for publication in the Open Forum. It is captioned "What's the Matter With the Men in Chattanooga?" The letter says in part:

> How much longer are the men in Chattanooga going to allow these brutal and outrageous attacks on women by Negroes? Is it true that the Spirit of the South is no more?
>
> Only last Sunday was Mother's Day, a day when the entire United States reverences and commemorates Motherhood, and, just three days later, a Negro youth, 19 years old, attacks a woman 50 years of age. Why, even in foreign land, foreign courts refuse to condemn a man who does his duty in like cases. Are we going to allow foreigners to have higher morals and ideals than us?
>
> In my opinion, the only cure for these attacks (and it has been proven in the past) is to take these men, whether they be white or black, who commit these unspeakable crimes, out and hang them, and even that would be a very mild punishment compared to the untold misery they had caused.

The letter is typical, we believe, of those written in the spirit of anger, which the writer, in retrospection, regrets having written. Unfortunately, it is just such a spirit which prompts mobs to perpetrate their violent deeds. We have urged speedy action by the courts in the latest assault case here. The court officials can see, from the letter we print above, the effect these crimes have on sections of the public mind.

Lynching not only is a blot on the South, but it has never served to curb the crime for which it is given as dire punishment. Violence provokes violence, and the South's unhappy experiences with the lynching evil is proof enough of this.

The letter which we have quoted, however, contains certain sentences worthy of special comment. "Is the spirit of the South no more?" the writer asks. And later, "Are we going to allow foreigners to have higher morals and ideals than us?" Is the spirit of the South one of mob violence? Is lynching a type of "higher morals and ideals"?

Women are leading in the campaign to prevent lynching. And it must be a process of education and changing of the people's psychology. The old idea that murder could be made chivalrous, that lawlessness could be made knight errantry, must be changed. Then we shall not only reduce lynchings, but we shall reduce the crimes which cause lynchings.

New York Evening Journal
Bronx Section
MAY 1 6 1932

SEES LYNCHING NATURAL EVIL

"Lynching has developed as a natural result of social conditions and rooted itself so deeply in our life that it has been impossible to uproot it."

Dr. William E. Bohn, director of the Rand School of Social Science, told that to an audience at the People's Educational Forum, 2005 Seventh Ave., Harlem, adding that "soon after the Revolution, from about 1800 to 1840, we had on the frontier an era of lawlessness which gave rise to lynching and several other unpleasant aspects of our civilization.

"Under such circumstances anyone who had attracted unpleasant attention because of peculiarity of color, race, religious opinion or anything else was in great danger of attack and summary destruction."

Frankfort, Ky. State Journal
Friday, June 3, 1932

RIGHT MAN?

Lynchers down at Princeton murdered a pretty bad egg, if they murdered the right man. But the man had not been tried. Was he guilty? Who knows?

That is one objection to lynching.

There are other objections, of course.

But a major objection is that where the principle of lynching is accepted there is a tendency to lynch somebody without knowing whether he is guilty.

The lynchers at Princeton were hardly a mob in the ordinary sense of the term.

They were, rather, a vigilance committee.

"They should be prosecuted?"

Oh yeah. They should be prosecuted.

But how often do you hear of lynchers being punished in court?

The same sentiment that causes the lynching protects the lynchers.

Kentucky has an automatic removal law.

And when a jailer is removed under that law the vicinage elects his wife in his place, to show its contempt of the law.

And there you are.

Sun ~~NEWS~~ DEMOCRAT
PADUCAH, KY.
JUN 2 1932

LYNCHING REPORT SENT TO LAFFOON BY JUDGE WILSON

Circuit Jurist Interviews Officials At Princeton to Learn of Killing

PRINCETON, Ky., June 1, (Special)—Judge C. H. Wilson, who presides over the Fourth judicial circuit court, hurried here this morning from his home at Smithland after being informed of the lynching of Walter Merrick.

After a brief inspection of the lynching, the judge, sent the following message to Gov. Ruby Laffoon at Frankfort:

"Princeton, Kentucky
"June 1, 1932.
"Governor Ruby Laffoon,
"Frankfort, Kentucky.
"Dear Governor:

"I was called this morning by P. J. Blackburn, sheriff of Caldwell county, and informed that during last night Mr. Curt Jones, jailor of Caldwell county, was overpowered, tied and bound by a mob wearing masks, and the keys to the county jail taken from him, and Walter Merrick taken from the jail of Caldwell county, hanged about two miles out the Cadiz Road on the McGowan lane where the body was discovered about six o'clock this morning by Albert Mitchell and his son, Floyd Mitchell, and same reported to J. H. Bell, who in turn reported to Mr. Blackburn.

"I immediately came over and investigated this deplorable act in a limited way, and thought it proper to report to you. Mr. Jones, the jailor, stated that at about 12 o'clock last night the door of the apartment in front of the jail where he sleeps at night was kicked in, and a number of men wearing masks entered, drew guns on him and cursing told him to keep quiet. They bound him hand and foot, guarding him while other members of the party unlocked the jail and procured Walter Merrick, after which they went away leaving Mr. Jones bound.

"I have been unable to find any censure of the jailor in this affair, which is regretted by the people generally. I have viewed the remains of Mr. Merrick and he had several bruises on his left leg and arm, and one on the side of the ear showing that he had a severe lick, and the print of ropes and cord on his wrists and ankles and one around his neck. The man evidently died from strangulation, and the best of opinion is that his neck was not broken.

"I interviewed Judge W. W. Childress, county judge of Caldwell county, P. J. Blackburn, sheriff of Caldwell county, and J. C. Hardin, county attorney, and jailor Curt Jones for the purpose of this report and they all give about the same version of the matter.

Very truly yours,
"C. H. Wilson, Judge,
"Fourth Judicial District."

Ju[illegible] about the offi[illegible] for the ly[illegible]hers, [illegible]d that suc[illegible] up to Gov[illegible]

HOUSTON, TEX.
POST DISPATCH
JUL 8 1932

The Lynching Record

ONE of the most active and influential forces at work to bring about complete suppression of lynching is the Association of Southern White Women for the Prevention of Lynching. This organization is composed of a large number of women, many of them members of Protestant church societies. Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames, formerly of Georgetown, Texas, is executive director of the association.

This group has recently published statistics on lynching which show that for the first six months in 1932 there were only five instances of this crime. That was the same number recorded in the same period last year. One of the lynchings this year occurred in Hawaii, so that only four are charged to the mainland of the United States.

It is worth noting that of the four victims of mob violence in this country in the first half of this year two were white men and two negroes. That is an indication that lynching has ceased to be a product of racial animosity. Negroes can no longer claim that they are singled out to be victims of mobs. White people also are unsafe from mob violence.

It is also worth noting that the most usual cause for lynching in older days in the South, criminal assault on a white woman, was cited in only one of the four cases of mob murder this year. One negro was lynched on accusation of insulting a white woman. In the instance in which rape was the accusation, the victim of the mob was a white man. Not one of the cases in 1932 involved rape by a negro. One of the white men lynched was accused of bombing a store, and the other negro was accused of threatening a white man.

Thirteen attempts at lynching in the first half of 1932 were frustrated by officers of the law. It is a good record for the officers when they prevent nearly three times as many threatened crimes of this sort as actually occur in a six months' period.

No one can view the record of lynching during the last ten years without observing progress in the movement to suppress this form of lawlessness. In the first half of 1922, just ten years ago, there were thirty lynchings, and for the whole year of 1922 there were fifty-seven. Compare the thirty with the five so far this year, and there is room for encouragement on the part of those who hope to see mob violence completely wiped out in this country.

Lynchings-1932
&
Discussions.

White Press, (Southern.)

3641

VALDOSTA, GA.
TIMES
MAR 2 1932

LYNCH RECORD CRITICISM DRAW PROTEST NOW

Georgia Editor Resents Unflattering Descriptions of County Conditions

Macon, Ga., March 2. (AP)—A charge Georgia's lynching record is "a blot on a fair name" is made by George Fort Milton, editor of the Chattanooga News, in reply to a protest against unflattering descriptions of economic conditions in Montgomery county, Ga., which he gave in a diagnosis of lynching causes.

The protest was made by Hugh Peterson, Montgomery county, legislator and editor of the Montgomery Monitor, in letters to Gov. Richard B. Russell, Jr., of Georgia, Jack Williams, editor of the Waycross Journal Herald and president of the Georgia Press Association, and to W. T. Anderson, of Macon, chairman of the board of regents of the University of Georgia.

Mr. Milton, chairman of the southern commission on lynching, spoke Feb. 19 before the Georgia Press Association at the University of Georgia and said evidence had been found indicating "a greater likelihood of lynchings in communities living upon the fringe of hunger and of heartbreak."

He cited examples and said a negro politician had been slain or lynched in Montgomery county, quoting the report of a southern commission investigator which said "the poor whites of Montgomery and surrounding counties are poor indeed." The investigator gave a picture of low economic status.

Mr. Peterson, in his protest, said a newspaper article on Mr. Milton's address "conveyed an impression of Montgomery county that facts will not justify."

He urged that the governor bring his letter to the attention of University board of regents and "have proper action taken to correct this propaganda which is false, contrary to facts and an insult to the honor and integrity of our people." He charged the unversity with sponsorship of the speech.

Mr. Milton replied to the protest in a statement to the Macon Telegraph saying he had "thorough confidence in the factual accuracy" of what the lynching commission investigators reported.

He added that conditions described in Georgia counties where lynchings occurred "can of course be paralleled in most of the communities in which lynchings occurred in other states in 1930. That there is a close relationship between economic and social conditions and the occurrence of lynchings I have no doubt."

The Chattanooga editor reiterated that the Montgomery county case was "an outrage" and suggested citizens wishing to display indignation "display it against the prepetrator of the crime rather than against those who are seeking underlying reasons for such breaches of laws of civil society in an effort to suggest ways and means to minimize their likelihood."

"I believe," he added, "the truth should be and is of paramount importance and the truth is that Georgia's lynching record is a blot upon a fair name and one which really patriotic Georgia citizens should wish removed."

MACON, GA.
NEWS
MAR 2 1932

EDITORS DISPUTE LYNCHING CAUSE

Chattanoogan Reiterates "Poor Whites" Charge After Georgian's Protest

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"Poor Whites" Described

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He urged that the governor bring his letter to the attention of the university board of regents and "have proper action taken to correct this propoganda, which is false, contrary to facts, and an insult to the honor and integrity of our people." He charged the university with sponsorship of the speech.

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"Other Counties Poor"

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Tuesday, [illegible], 1931

FACTS ARE STUBBORN THINGS

We feel that there has been too much said about what Editor George Fort Mitlon told the press institute at Athens a week or so ago, that is too much inspired solely by prejudice and provincialism. We of Georgia and the South should rid ourselves of littleness and face the truth about the evil of lynching. We know of nothing that can be said in favor of it, and abusing some one who comes among us by invitation, and speaks the truth so strongly it makes us squawk, should have a vote of thanks, and be invited to come again.—Dalton Citizen.

The only way any state, or any community, can be brought to a realization of many of its shortcomings is to be forced to face the truth, however unpleasant the truth may be. Any lynching in Georgia is a discredit to the state, and every lynching that occurs is an encouragement for the next group that is tempted to take the law into its own hands. There is a good deal of resentment in some quarters in Georgia because Editor Milton made horrible examples of certain Georgia counties, and one county in particular. But we have an idea Mr. Milton wanted to bring his message to Georgians as close home as possible, and the question is whether the things he said were true. If they were, the state can with greater profit go seriously about the business of correcting the evil than devoting its time for making faces at an editor from a neighboring state who only desires to be helpful.

The low prices at which oranges and grapefruit sell continue to place them within easy reach of people of modest means. Good oranges at ten, fifteen, twenty, twenty-five and thirty cents a dozen, and grapefruit at proportionately low prices, are still available in South Georgia markets, and the supply is abundant. Good citrus fruits are both healthful and palatable. They are good food, and good medicine.

Greensboro, Ga., Herald-Journal
Friday, March 18, 1932

Commotion Over The Milton Speech

We have had nothing to say up until now about the discussion over the George F. Milton speech at the Press Institute in Athens on lynchings in general and lynchings in Georgia.

If there was ever any doubt about the propriety of that speech; it's clear now that the speech served a very useful purpose.

In the first place, it will put possibly some life into the Georgia Press Association and get it out of the class of a pussy-footing aggregation and a mutual-admiration society. The Georgia Press Association has not taken a position in years which required any leadership, moral stamina or courage. It avoids every issue that arises.

Second, the Milton speech will shake loose the pussy-footers in the state and maybe open up the University of Georgia guardians to the point that some loud-thinking will be done.

Third, it will cause Georgia to do a little thinking about her own officials, courts and law-enforcement agencies.

* * * *

It may be besides the point, but it did not reflect any credit on Governor Russell to have him refer to Editor Milton as "one George Fort Milton." That may be in order in some of the circle best known to the Governor but certainly it is a petty display of narrowness not becoming any gentleman.

* * * *

There is no reson why there should be so much nervousness over the source and responsibility of the Milton speech. Mark Etheridge, managing editor of The Maon Telegraph has frankly stated how Mr. Milton came to be invited and why the particlar subject of lynching was selected.

* * * *

The Montgomery Monitor has been raving about this speech. We do not blame the editor. It is hard to edit a newspaper and hold public office. The same people who may dislike an editorial attitude also have the right to vote. The Monitor would come into the discussion on stronger ground if the editor and the politician were n-t combined in one.

All of this "shooting" is besides the fact.

* * * *

The Athens Banner-Herald says: "The subject matter of Editor Milton's address, discussed in a general way, would have been entirely proper, but to single out Georgia and Montgomery County was ill advised and inexcusable."

Yes, it is okeh to denounce lynching in the abstract sense, in a general way, but never talk about specific cases. No, no—that will never do.

Such expressions by Georgia newspapers are pitiable admissions.

We have too many office holding and office seeking editors in Georgia.

They must cater to certain sentiment in order to win favor with their constituency.

* * * *

Let us know more about that Mincey case. The editor of The Monitor has said it was generally known who did the killing. Has the editor been before the grand jury to tell what he knows?

Douglas, Ga., Progress
Thursday, March 17, 1932

PITIFUL PICTURE OF COMMUNITIES THAT LYNCH PAINTED

ATHENS, Ga.—George Fort Milton, editor of the Chattanooga News and prominent southern writer, in his speech before the Press Institute Friday, said that evidence had been found indicating a "greater likelihood of lynchings in communities living upon the fringe of hunger and heartbreak."

He discussed reports of lynching investigators who pictured darb conditions existing in several Georgia communities in which lynchngs have occurred in recent years. Investigators of the southern commission on the study of lynching, he said, illustrated the point of reports on several Georgia lynchings.

"A negro named George Grant was shot to death in a cell in the county jail at Darien, September 8, 1930," he said. The editor said that for a series of years, Darien had declined as a port, as a rice-growing center and "in many other ways the county's economic structure had been progressively breaking down.

"James Irwin paid the final price of mob law at Ocilla, on January 21, 1930," he continued, adding that bank deposits in Irwin county in 1929 were "but $33.45 per inhabitant, compared with $155.98 for Georgia as a whole." In that year, Mr. Milton added, only seven income tax returns were made in the entire county.

"Aside from its winter resort qualities, the economic backwardness of Thomasville, the scene of the lynching of Willie Kirkland, was equally obvious. The agricultural methods of the county were almost primitive. 'Rural dwellers made a living', this particular case study related, 'for the most part by tilling the soil with one-horse plows, briar hooks and long-handle hoes.' "

Ancient Farm Methods.

Mr. Milton said the report said agricultural methods of "half a century ago" were followed and that "in many respects these rural dwellers have made but little advance since 1880. They produce but little more now than then. They live in poor houses, many of them mere hulls which do not stand upright . . . . They send their children to a one-teacher school now and then," he further quoted the report.

Discussing the death by violence in July, 1930, of "S. S. Mincey, a negro politician of considerable standing in the state," who was slain at his home near Ailey, in Montgomery county, Mr. Milton said:

"Mincey had irritated some local political applicants by his unwillingness to indorse them for appointment. There was some question as to whether death by violence was lynching or murder, but this does not interfere with the economic analysis.

"Montgomery county is a farming county, with only a small scattering of automobile mechanics, filling station attendants and professional men. The county is extremenly poor . Its per capita production in 1924 was only $130.92, compared with the Georgia state average of $310.78 . . . . Its tax valuation per inhabitant was only about half of that of the state as a whole."

Commissioninvestigators, he said, gave the following picture of its population:

Klan Has Failed.

"The poor whites of Montgomery and surrounding counties are poor indeed. The klan which they accepted as a way out has failed them; cotton is cheap; there is no prosperous city to run off to at will. They are emaciated looking, and they with their wives and children grow old while young.

" 'Mothers with sunken chests and practically no teeth, little babies in arms with scabs on their heads and running sores about their ears, boys chewing tobacco before they are half grown and girls staring and popping their gum, and men, women and children with dirty clothes and unkempt persons seething fatalism and pessimism are to be seen on every hand.

" 'Now and then an intoxicated fellow breaks the monotony, only to add to the sordidness of the picture. One Saturday afternoon at a little town between Ailey and Ocilla, a snaggled-toothed white mother carrying a 6 month-old baby with a stick of candy in its mouth, stumbled over a half grown pig just out of a street wallow midway between the bank and the postoffice. There is much of frontie in this part of Georgia, with the viri ity of the frontier lacking.'

Ignorant Emotionals.

"Not all of the communities whicl were the scenes of lynching represen such intellectual, social and economi poverty as was found in those jus described," said Mr. Milton. "But i almost every instance studied, investigators called attention to the existence of a large group of ignoran emotionally directed, one might sa almost criminally-minded people, eager to burn and hang."

The editor said solution of th lynching problem calls for quickenin of the machinery of the law to prevent threatened lynchings and whe they are not prevented, to bring "du penalty upon their perpetrators." H said the more important phase of th problem is to reorganize the socia viewpoint of the south. "This," h added, "involves substituting satisfaction and contentment for hunger and heartbreaks in such places as Ocilla Ailey and Darien. It involves the re education of our people."

MONTGOMERY, ALA
ADVERTISER

APR 29 1932

Involuntary Ally Of Lynchers

An editorial of The Baltimore Sun regretting the refusal of a Grand Jury to indict persons suspected of participating in a lynching in Salisbury and its suggestion that the anti lynching laws be amended, "that it would greatly stimulate the lethargy of communities wherein a lynching Grand Jury refused to indict," received the hearty praise of "The Nation," of New York. It is doubtless well bestowed. In an editorial immediately preceding The Nation says: "Alabama, in short, no longer troubles itself with the unpleasant features provided by an oldtime lynching; but the result for seven young negroes accused of rape on the unsupported testimony of a white woman of highly questionable reputation, will, unless the Federal Supreme Court intervenes, be substantially the same."

Thus this New York weekly, pleading for better anti-lynching laws in Maryland, in the same column tries, in its own office, not only the seven negroes convicted in Scottsboro and acquits them, but convicts the law, the Circuit and the Supreme Courts of Alabama.

Ordinarily, The News and Courier would not consider this worth noticing, but it is interested in behalf of the Southern negroes. In Alabama and in most Southern States negroes are tried in white men's courts. Right or wrong (we think it right), this condition will continue. If the courts in Alabama are to be condemned, if they are to be lynched, another court, the court of the "oldtime lynching," will be substituted for them. The Nation need have no doubt of that. The only way to prevent it would be for The Nation and its cult to subjugate Alabama, send an army and over-run it. That will not be done.

In Alabama are ruffians, thugs, brutes, murderous lynchers, many of them. They hate the Alabama courts. So does The Nation. The liaison between them and The Nation is perfect, however The Nation is unaware of it.

We can think of nothing more unfortunate for the Southern negroes than would be the attempt by Federal authority to deprive the State of Alabama of the right to try its criminals—for Federal authority in the United States no longer entertains the wish or has the power to trample upon and crush Alabama. Massachusetts and Alabama are at one in the matter of trying criminals whether they be murderers or rapists.

These infatuated defenders of the Scottsboro negroes are curiously without a sense of humor. Had no soldiers been sent to Scottsboro during the trial and a lynching had occurred (there is no reason to say that it would have occurred), they would have denounced Governor Miller and all Alabamians as party to it, accusing them of criminal negligence. The soldiers were sent, there was no disorder, no rioting—and they set up the presence of the soldiers as evidence that the negroes could not get a fair trial in Scottsboro! The Nation's expression is all but one of disappointment.

The decent people, the decent press, and the courts will put down lynching in Alabama despite the unwitting and insane efforts of such agencies as The Nation to incite the ruffian element of Alabama's population against the black people. The Nation does no more than make the task more tedious.—Charleston News and Courier.

The Kansas Lynching.

Memphis
Commercial
Appeal
4-20-32

Despite the fact that it turned John Brown loose on a campaign of violence that helped bring on the war between the states back in 1861-1865 Kansas has been severely critics may be estopped from de- occurs. There are no more round denouncers of a southern state where a lynching happens to occur than certain Kansans.

For a time these severe Kansas critics may be estopped from denouncing mob violence elsewhere by the action of a mob in their own domain. The lynching of a farmer near Atwood, Kan., at a time when the governor himself was stopping in the latter town, will deprive Kansas and Kansans from any authority in the matter of prescribing domestic tranquillity, law and order for other people.

The crime for which the 53-year-old farmer was lynched stands out as a brutal and heinous act. He murdered an eight-year-old girl after attacking her and then hid her body in a haystack. The offense was one calculated to make any man angered even beyond the restraint of law and order. And were it not for the assumption of superiority by some Kansas leaders there would be sympathy for the state in its trouble.

But it is difficult to resist the tu quoque response to a critic who has fallen into the evil he criticises. Maybe William Allen White will be inspired to inquire again: "What's the matter with Kansas?" If so the reply might be that it is merely human and natural even thought covered with a veneer of hypocrisy.

Lynchings-1932

Discussions.

White Press (Southern.)

3642

Fountain Inn, S. C., Tribune
Thursday, March 3, 1932

Our Lynching

Did I ever tell you about Fountain Inn's lynching? It never was mentioned in the daily papers and few people outside the village ever heard of it.

It happened one night some years ago when the sidewalks were crowded with country people, black and white, and the regular drinkers of the village were beginning to liquor up for their week-end whoopee.

At that time one of the most prosperous grocery stores was owned by an outlander who came to the village from distant places, flourished for a time, and then moved away. His son, a youth fully grown, sometimes clerked in the store.

The night of the lynching, the store and the sidewalk in front were filled with customers and loafers, black and white rubbing elbows. Among them was a stockily built and very black Negro youth who was commonly regarded as a "bad nigger." That means he was neither humble nor polite. He didn't grin when white men spoke to him. He seemed sullen, arrogant, belligerently independent. He wasn't afraid. In short, he was the type that resents racial discrimination and invites trouble.

He stood among other black loafers in front of the store. For some reason the storekeeper's son objected to his presence there and told him to move on. Instead of obeying, as another member of his race would have done, he answered impudently and stood his ground.

People on the street heard blows and shouts; white men and boys came running from every direction; a little knot of men struggled and panted on the sidewalk in the midst of the crowd and then a policeman appeared everybody made way for him.

There were no more blows, for nobody wished to pay a fine. The policeman and another man took charge of the black boy, each holding an arm, and started across the street in the direction of the jail.

The Negro struggled at first, but the white man said to him: "Better go along quietly. You'll be safer in jail tha n anywhere else." Then he quit struggling.

But the white man was mistaken.

Later in the night, when the crowd had dispersed and the mayor had gone home, the night policeman was stopped on his rounds by a number of young men who were bent on vengeance.

There was no conflict or outcry. The policeman, for reasons of his own, surrendered the keys to the jail—and his job as well, though he didn't know that until next morning.

What followed remains in some degree a mystery, for none of those who took part in it cared to boast and there was no investigation.

In the depths of a woods some distance from town the Negro was stripped to the waist and tied to a tree. There must have been a bonfire, or numerous flashlights, for the night was dark.

Somebody had provided whips and the white men and boys stepped forward one at a time and struck the specified number of blows—some of them lightly, because they were not proud of what they were doing, and some of them grimly and with all their strength.

Not all of them took part in the flogging, for something happened to cool their enthusiasm. One young man, disdaining a whip, leaped forward with a knife in his hand and stabbed it deep into a shrinking black shoulder.

That was too much for one of the older men. "I came out here to whip this boy," said he, "but if that's the anyway you're going to do, I'm through."

There was no more cutting. The party had reached its climax. Rumor is silent or vague concerning what followed. The black boy wasn't brought back to jail. Nobody in this community has seen him since.

If he lived, a new hatred doubtless smouldered behind the sullen look in his arrogant eyes and gave other white men, in some distant community, additional reason to call him a bad nigger.

Anderson, S. C., Record
Tuesday, March 8, 1932

LYNCHING ON THE DECLINE.

Whatever else may be said of South Carolina as regards lawlessness, highway fatalities, etc., during the year 1931, there is a bright ray through the clouds perceptible in the fact that the state had no lynchings during the year, according to statistics announced by the principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama. And not only was South Carolina's record spotless, but the figures disclose a decided improvement in the situation in this respect throughout other states of the nation.

During the year 1931 there were 13 persons lynched as compared with 21 for the previous twelve months. The year 1930 furnished the high mark in lynchings for a period of several years, but it is at least encouraging that there were eight less deaths at the hands of the mob the past year. Even that is too many, however, and it is to be hoped by those who champion law and order that the time will come when even these few will be wiped out.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each of the states includes: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; North Dakota, 1; Tennessee 1, and West Virginia 2.

It is noted from the report that there were 57 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings and that is something to be thankful for.

Some times it is difficult when a horrible crime has been committed for the people of the community to compose themselves and let the law take its course. But how much better it is that they should hold in firm check that desire to vent their wrath upon the guilty one, or the one suspicioned.

Who Promote Lynching?

Advertiser

3-29-32

Montgomery Ala.

The Supreme Court of Alabama having affirmed the judgment and sentence of seven of the eight Scottsboro negroes who committed an infamous and capital crime, which insures their punishment by death, an outcry may now be expected from the Communists and the "Liberals" throughout the United States and in other parts of the world. These are people who deny the sovereignty of Alabama, who set up to be superior rulers of Alabama to the Alabamians.

These people, these outsiders, are, in the first place, opposed to capital punishment. They think that nobody should be hanged for anything.

They would like to crush all government. They are hostile to our order of civilization.

Their notion of the crime committed by the negroes is foreign to ours in the South. They look on it as a relatively minor offense.

They are not concerned about how the laws of Alabama are carried out. They do not want them carried out.

What took place in Scottsboro was vindication of the law. Soldiers of the national guard were sent to the village to protect the court. They protected it. They saw that a trial was had and that ruffians in a populace naturally aroused did not lynch the prisoners.

The plain truth is that seldom in the South has there been a higher and better illustration of orderly, lawful, civilized, procedure than in this Scottsboro case, in Alabama.

The stress placed on the allegation that the defenseless women who were the victims of the negroes were not exemplary members of society is, of course, alien to the question at issue and is introduced into it by the enemies of the law Whether the two women were good or bad, the evidence is that force was employed against them, and the law in Alabama (so it is in South Carolina, as it should be) is that a crime so done is punishable by death. If that were not the law decent people could not and would not live in Alabama. The Alabamians and the other Southerners mean that the conditions in Honolulu shall not prevail in their states.

What respectable people in Alabama wish is that there shall be law and not "lynch law" They believe that the most despicable criminals can be punished better by civilized procedure than by bloody murderers, lynchers—for when men lynch, whatever the provocation, they murder.

The interferers with the courts in Alabama are the arrayed accessories and promoters of lynch law in the Southern States. They are breeding lynchers, they care less than nothing about the poor negroes, they would welcome the lynching of a thousand negroes because they think it helpful to their cause of disorder and anarchy.

The Alabamians who defend their courts when they try negroes, or white men, and punish felons when they are convicted, are the best and the only defenders of the negro race.
—Charleston News and Courier.

Berea, Ky., Citizen
Thursday, February 18, 1932

JUDGE LYNCH

According to recent statistics published by the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, thirteen persons were lynched in 1931. This number is relatively small when compared to the inflated death total of 1930, when twenty-one persons fell victims to mob fury; yet it is three more than the total of ten for 1929, and two more than the number for 1928. Since the year 1926, when thirty such atrocities were committeed in the Union, the total has been steadily declining, except for the spasmodic flare-up in 1930.

Of the thirteen persons lynched, one was white and twelve were Negroes. The offenses charged by the mobs were five for murder, five for attempted rape, and three for wounding a man.

It is gnerally accepted that the reason for lynching is that it is the only protection for Southern white womenhood. This flimsy excuse is given the lie by statistics released by the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching. Convinced by the consideration of facts that lynching was not actually committed in protection of white women, but that this excuse was used merely to condone a crime against law, order, and government, and was a menance to the Southern home, the women gathered together in a convention of delegates from seven of the Southeastern states expressed themselves in a resolution no longer to remain silent in the face of this crime done in their name. They further resolved to agitate against lynching until the crime should cease to exist. Their figures, gathered carefully over a period of eight years, show that of the 211 lynchings committed in the United States, 204 have taken place in the South. Of this number, but sixty-five had charged rape or attempted rape. Twenty were lynched without any given cause,and seventy-two for every one lynching with an alleged cause ranging from "not knowing his place" to "improper conduct and insulting language." During the past ten years, for every one lynching with an alleged cause in any way involving women or children, there have been more than two for causes involving men only. For every lynching charging rape or alleged rape, there have been three for other causes. In fact, two white women were in danger of their lives from mob action in 1931.

It is a disgrace to the South that she should have a preponderance of such lawness killings. Mississippi is particularly besmirched by her record of forty-nine slayings in ten years. Perhaps she justly deserves the conclusion reached by Mencken and Angoff, who in a recent survey declare her to be the "Worst American State."

The race question does enter in. But more than that, there is the feeling that something is wrong with the justice of the law. Our courts are internationally infamous for their art at dragging cases over years and years, only to come to a decision that could be reached by a competent judge in a few days. Perhaps the greatest fault is in the judges, men elected on their ability to kiss more babies than their rival candidates for office, rather than for their merits as jurists and law-givers. The jury system is obsolete, in comparison to the systems where trained judges render decisions. The crowd, horrified by the crime, takes the law into its own hands, rather than wait years for a decision.

With all these difficulties, the fight against mob murder goes steadily on, trying to remove this last outpost of savagery.

Knoxville Tenn,
Times Mar. 5, 1932

DON'T ENCOURAGE LYNCHING

Will Rogers has publicly expressed the righteous indignation that every decent citizen feels over the kidnaping of the Lindbergh baby. But it is feared the great comedian went a bit too far in that he wonders why lynching parties don't extend the scope of their operations and take in kidnapings.

Such an outburst of indignant wrath is but natural. We heard a preacher express practically the same thought. But lynching would not deter other fiends from like deeds if they thought they could escape apprehension and obtain a large ransom.

Lynchings are a flareback to the days of frontier justice when constituted authority had not yet been established and upon the better element devolved the keeping of at least the semblance of order and the suppression of crime.

Flouting of the laws of this country already is too general. Encouragement in that direction from so distinguished a personage as Mr. Rogers is to be deplored, even in so gruesome and reprehensible a crime as the kidnaping of Baby Lindbergh.

Meantime, every possible clue is being followed in the hope of recovering the baby and capturing the kidnapers. Christians throughout the world have prayed for the Lindbergh child's return to the loving arms of its parents as perhaps, collectively, they have never prayed before except for the cessation of cruel war in which our own sons were involved.

Prayers availeth much. Let all Christians keep on praying.

And while these prayers are being offered, the Nation's lawmakers might consider the advisability of making kidnaping a capital offense. But let's not encourage lynching.

ATLANTA, GA.
CONSTITUTION
MAR 2 1932

Peterson and Milton Clash Over Causes of Lynchings

Complaints Filed by Editor in Letters to Governor Russell and Williams.

MOUNT VERNON, Ga., March 1. (AP)—Complaint at a recent speech by George Fort Milton, editor of the Chattanooga News, in which he quoted the report of a lynching commission investigator on social and economic conditions in Montgomery county, Georgia, has been voiced by Hugh Peterson, editor of the Montgomery Monitor, in a letter to Governor Russell.

Mr. Milton spoke February 19 at the Institute of the Georgia Press Association, which met at the University of Georgia in Athens. Mr. Peterson, who is a member of the general assembly and a brother-in-law of the governor, said a newspaper article on Mr. Milton's address conveyed "an impression of Montgomery county that facts will not justify."

Mr. Peterson also wrote regarding the speech to Jack Williams, editor of the Waycross Journal-Herald, president of the Georgia Press Association; Hal Stanley, of Atlanta, secretary of the association, and to W. D Anderson, of Macon, chairman of the board of regents of the University of Georgia.

In his letter to the governor he asked that the governor bring the letter to the attention of the board of regents "and have proper action taken to correct this propaganda which is false, contrary to facts and an insult to the honor and integrity of our people."

The Monitor's editor charged that "this propaganda is sponsored by the state university, which is supported by the taxpayers of Montgomery and other counties of the state."

In his address Mr. Milton said evidence had been found indicating a "greater likelihood of lynchings in communities living upon the fringe of hunger and of heartbreak." He said a negro politician had been slain at Ailey, in Montgomery county, and that although "there was some question" whether it was a murder or a lynching, the question "does not interfere with the economic analysis."

From a report of an investigator of the southern commission on the study of lynching, he quoted: "'The poor whites of Montgomery and surrounding counties are poor indeed. They are emaciated looking and they, with their wives and children, grow old while young. Mothers with sunken chests and practically no teeth, little babies in arms with scabs on their heads and running sores about their ears, boys chewing tobacco before they are half grown and girls staring and popping their gum, and men, women and children with dirty clothes and unkempt persons seething fatalism and pessimism are to be seen on every hand. There is much of frontier in this part of Georgia, with the virility of the frontier lacking.'"

The Chattanooga editor said solution of the lynching problem calls for quickening of the machinery of the law to prevent threatened lynchings and when they are not prevented to punish their perpetrators. He said the more important phase of the problem is to reorganize the social viewpoint of the south.

This, he added, "involves substituting satisfaction and contentment for hunger and heart-break in such places as Ocilla, Ailey and Darien."

In his letter to Mr. Williams, Mr. Peterson demanded that the president bring this matter "to the immediate attention of the association and take proper action to correct this propaganda, which is false, contrary to facts and an insult to the honor and integrity of our people."

W. M. U. Wants No Lynching, Drinking

Advertiser
Montgomery Ala

ST. PETERSBURG, FLA., May 12.—(AP)—Eradication of lynching, strengthening of prohibition laws, increased financial contributions and membership campaigns were approved here today by the Women's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention as major objectives for the year.

Without discussion and without a dissenting vote, the organization adopted a resolutions committee report containing these projects.

5-12-32

A call for Baptist women to oppose enemies of prohibition was sounded by Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames, of Atlanta, woman's work director of the the commission on interracial relations. She also called upon them to rise up against lynching as "a crime against Christianity."

Improvement of living conditions among negroes and persons of foreign birth also was stressed by her.

Mrs. W. J. Cox, of Memphis, Tenn., was reelected president of the Missionary Union today. Other officers reelected are Miss Kathleen Mallory, corresponding secretary; Miss Juliette Mather, young people's secretary; Mrs. H. M. Wharton, recording secretary; Mrs. Sumter Lea, Jr., assistant recording secretary, all of Birmingham, Ala., and Mrs. W. C. Lowndes, of Baltimore, treasurer.

The Baptist Brotherhood of the South, meeting in advance of the 77th annual Southern Baptist Convention tomorrow, heard inspirational addresses.

Tithing and increased contributions to church work were advocated in both the W. M. U. and the Brotherhood sessions.

Lynchings - 1932

White Press, Southern.

3643

Discussions.

Brewton, Ala., Standard
Thursday, June 9, 1932

Law and Order in Kentucky

How insidious is that poison of the group mind which results in lynching is illustrated in news from Kentucky. It appears that one Walter Merrick complained some months ago because his young son had been whipped in school. Merrick took the case to court and there the chairman of the County School Board sided with the teacher. The chairman, who has the peculiar name of P'Poole, is the keeper of a store, and the store, soon after the trial of the case, was shattered by dynamite. Nobody was killed, but P'Poole and a boy were injured. Merrick was charged with the crime and committed to jail. He was there awaiting trial when one night a mob seized him and hanged him to a tree.

Here was a case in which the familiar excuses for lynch law were absent. It was not a case of a crime against womanhood. It does not appear that there was prospect of Merrick's escaping punishment at the hands of the law. There was no racial issue involved. Merrick is white. But there have been five lynchings in Kentucky since 1923. In one other case the victim was a white man. He lived long enough to name some of the men who were in the lynching party, but nobody was convicted. If the slayers of Merrick go similarly unpunished, it is reasonable to expect that soon there will be another lynching. A state that tolerates lawlessness of this kind is obviously a breeding place for it.

Under such a condition, no part of a state has a monopoly of such crimes. Chester Fugate, the other white victim of lynch law, was taken from the jail of Breathitt County on Christmas morning, 1929, and, after being beaten, was thrown into a ditch and left to die. The present crime was committed in Caldwell County, at the other end of the state. These outrages are evidently not to be excused as the result of conditions confined to a single restricted and lawless area. What will Kentucky do in an effort to see that they are not repeated?—Boston Transcript.

TIFTON, GA.
GAZETTE

JUN 8 1932

POSSE SLAYS NEGRO

From The Valdosta Times:

Terrible vengeance, exacted by irate north Florida citizens for the murder by a negro of a white man, Tuesday was represented by a chared and cindered human body—all that remained mortal of Henry Woods, who killed Ira Fowler, Jasper police chief, last Friday.

The negro's body, first riddled by bullets from more than a score of possemen's guns, following his capture early Monday evening, was dragged into Jasper by a mob of screaming men and burned. Near the scene where the veteran and well-liked officer met his death while in the act of arresting the negro for the theft of an auto, a large pyre was kindled. The largest crowd Jasper has known saw the roaring flames consume the body of the slain killer.

Woods brutally murdered Fowler, using the officer's own guh, when the chief attempted to put the handcuffs upon him. After shooting the officer, the negro is said to have stood over his prostrate form and emptied the gun into his body.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.
News

MAY 20 1932

LYNCHING RATIO IN SOUTH GAINS

UNIVERSITY, Ala.—(AP)—Dr. E. W. Gregory, Jr., professor of sociology at University of Alabama, has reported results of research which show that while the number of lynchings each year in the United States has decreased over a 40-year period, the percentage of the nation's lynchings in the South has increased.

Dr. Gregory's research study embraced the 40-year period from 1889 to 1929 and disclosed in addition that at the close of 1930 the number of victims of mob violence in that year equalled the number for the two preceding years.

Drawing figures from records compiled by the Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching, Dr. Gregory said that for the decade ending in 1899, 82 per cent of the nation's lynchings took place in the South. He compared this with the higher percentage of 97.4 in the South for the years 1925 to 1929.

To offset this he showed the average number a year in the country from 1889 to 1899 was 187.5, while for the 10-year period, 1920-29, the average number was 63 a year.

States having the largest number of lynchings during the 40-year period were Mississippi with 465, Georgia 464, Texas 364, and Louisiana 349. In that period 3,703 persons met death by mob violence, 2,916 of the number being negroes.

MIAMI, FLA.
NEWS

JUN 6 1932

Lynching Again

At Princeton, Ky., a mob steals up under cover of darkness to the county jail, overpowers officials and hangs one of the prisoners. Kentucky is thus assured a place in the shameful list of states where lynchings still occur. This crime had an ironic background typical of the spiteful ignorance of bloodthirsty bands which take the law into their own hands.

Walter Merrick's son was whipped by a schoolteacher. Merrick took the case to court and the chairman of the school board sided with the teacher. The chairman's store later was dynamited, seriously injuring him and others. Merrick was charged with the crime and was to have been tried this month.

Merrick wasn't satisfied with the judgment passed on his son by the teacher, by the school board or, finally, by the courts. Allegedly he flouted all such authority by dynamiting the chairman of the school-board's store. To punish him the mob itself goes out and commits a worse crime of the same stamp! As a matter of fact, it didn't even wait for the judgment of the courts, but made its own "justice."

The recent annual report of the commission on race relations of the Federal Council of Churches in America, reviewing its first decade of activity, is a timely commentary on this problem. Henceforth it is announced, every lynching will be investigated by a Federal Council expert and a report made of the causes and circumstances. A group of educators, journalists, clergymen and others in the South some time ago began a similar survey. They found there was strong doubt of the guilt of most lynching victims and that some were undoubtedly innocent. Lynching cannot conceivably be justified, even when the guilt of the victim is certain, but the findings indicate how haphazardly and blindly mobs operate.

The mob spirit is manifested invariably where ignorance and poverty reign. Removal of such causes must be an important phase of any campaign to stamp out lynching.

SAVANNAH, GA.
PRESS

JUN 10 1932

ANTI-LYNCHING BODY ON MINCEY DEATH

COMMISSION MAKES INTERESTING REFERENCES MONTGOMERY COUNTY

The Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching, of which Benjamin F. Hubert of Savannah is a member, has issued a pamphlet on "The Mob Murder of S. S. Mincy," which is of keen interest to this immediate section of Georgia. This is the commission headed by George Fort Milton, a newspaper editor of Chattanooga, Tenn., and included in its membership is Julian Harris of the Atlanta Constitution.

It will be recalled that at the meeting of the Georgia Press Association Institute at Athens, last winter, Mr. Milton read a paper in which he was rather sharp in his criticisms of Montgomery county and its people because of the lynching of S. S. Mincey, a negro Republican politician, and the failure of the authorities of the county to prosecute anyone for the commission of the crime. In "The Mob Murder of S. S. Mincey" there is a full review of this crime, and there are some references to Montgomery county that will, no doubt, attract much attention because of their frankness and directness in giving an estimate of the people of the county and a resume of the county's history and accomplishments.

The report on the Mincey flogging and death is much more in detail than was given in the address of Mr. Milton. In addition to the Mincey account, the pamphlet just issued tells how a threatened lynching was prevented in Sylvania, Screven county, another neighbor of Savannah.

In the foreword of the pamphlet, this announcement is made:

"The commission has selected for this purpose the mob death of S. S. Mincey, at Ailey, Montgomery county, Georgia, and the frustration of a threatened lynching at Sylvania, Screven county, Georgia. It will be noted that both cases are in rural counties. This is fitting, for while lynchings occur in urban communities, the likelihood of mob violence is greater in the rural counties, and greatest of all in those counties where economic surpluses are smallest, educational and cultural institutions least well supported, and police officers fewest, poorest paid, and most dependent upon local public opinion."

The Mincey resume is contained

under four general heads. It is contended that Mincey was not accused of crime, that he was flogged by a mob and died the next day, that the reaction to the crime was pronounced, but nothing was ever done about it. Then are given facts about the community in which the flogging occurred. It is probably in the conclusions of the commission in this subject that the most interest lies at this time. This section of the report treats of the history and advantages and disadvantages of Montgomery county.

It tells of the settling of the community by the Scotch Highlanders, banished from their native land because of their adherence to the House of Stuart. Incidentally there is mention of the Darien lynching in September, 1930, with the reference to Darien as a "now decadent town" situated on the banks of the Altamaha river.

The fact that "propertyless whites from old Southern communities" came into the county between 1830 and 1860 is mentioned, and the record of the county up to 1930 is traced. It finds a vestige of old class distinction in the county between the middle class of whites of Scotch descent and the "poor whites." The former class, it is pointed out, insisted upon the punishment of Mincey's slayers.

Under the caption "A Poor Rural County," the report states:

"Ailey, one mile east of Mount Vernon, has less than 400 people, and claims to be one of the wealthiest towns in the United States per capita. Nearly all the people who live in Ailey are white plantation owners, merchants, and professional men. The people who work the large farms, the poorer whites and negroes, live in the open country. Except for the gas station operators, a few auto mechanics, day laborers, and domestics in these agricultural villages, nearly everybody in the county is directly dependent upon the farm and the farm folk's trade for a livelihood. There are but a few bankers, merchants, and professional men, and practically all of these, along with most of the county officials, own farm lands and live in Ailey or Mount Vernon.

"The county is rural and poor. The combined value of farm crops and manufactured products in 1924 amounted to only $130.92 per capita, one-sixteenth of which was from manufactures, while the state average was $310.78 per capita, more than three-fourths of which was from manufactures. The value of farm crops per rural inhabitant was $147 as compared with the state average of more than $150.

"There are many poor people in Montgomery county, and a few wealthy ones. Only thirteen income tax returns were filed in 1929, and only one of these was for an income of more than $5,000. Thirteen returns were made in 1927, and fourteen in 1924. In 1930 the county's bank deposits were $41.33 per capita, as compared with a state average of $155.89. To date, the county has had no bank failures, an evidence of the ability of the men managing them. Montgomery county's per capita valuation (exclusive of corporation taxes) for 1930 was $182.98 as against the state per capita average of $348.03. Automobiles are relatively scarce in Montgomery county, in 1930 there being one to every thirteen persons as compared with the state average of one to every 8.6 persons."

Investigators find little hopes of improvement in the county because the flatness of the country, the prevalence of malaria and the distance from all markets, all militate against the development or attraction of manufacturers of consequence in the near future.

Cotton and corn are given as the chief crops of the county, and cheap human labor tends to perpetuate old and crude systems of farming rather than inspire the introduction of new crops.

Revealing what is termed the sorry plight of the propertyless rural whites, the report says:

"The propertyless rural whites of Montgomery and surrounding counties are poor indeed. The Klan which they generally accepted as a way out, has failed them; cotton is cheap; there are no prosperous cities to run off to at will. Many of these men with their wives and children are emaciated in appearance, and look old beyond their years. One sees mothers with sunken chests and practically no teeth, little babies in arms with scabs on their heads and running sores about their ears, boys chewing tobacco before they are half grown, and girls staring and popping their gum. Men, women and children, dirty and unkempt, seething fatalism and pessimism are not uncommon sights. Now and then an intoxicated fellow breaks the monotony and adds to the sordidness of the picture.

"One Saturday afternoon, at a small town between Ailey and Ocilla, a snaggled-toothed white mother was seen carrying a six-months-old baby with a stick of candy in its mouth, stumbling over a half-grown pig just out of a street wallow midway between the bank and the Post Office. There is much of the frontier in this part of Georgia, without the frontier's typical virility."

There is very little spent for schools and education, the report concludes, the territory including Georgia's poorest white schools. The county pays rural white school teachers less than $500 a year. Declares the report:

"One can make a continuous motor trip from the Florida line through the county seat towns of Waycross, Hoboken, Blackshear, Baxley, Mount Vernon, Soperton, Dublin, Irwinton, Cochrane, Eastman, Alma, Hazelhurst, Douglas, Fitzgerald, Ocilla—with a lynching on February 1, 1930—Nashville, Valdosta, and back to Statenville on the Florida line—a journey of over 350 miles—without leaving territory where white rural teachers' salaries average less than $500 per year."

The Brewton-Parker Institute at Mount Vernon is found to be poorly supported, but an important institution

Reviewing the religious situation in Montgomery county, the Baptists are reported as having the largest white membership. The Baptist pastors, it is noted, took an active stand against the Mincey flogging, and the other undercover activities of the Klan and other masked groups. There are eleven white Methodist churches in the county, and the Primitive Baptist membership is small. This sect, it is announced, is "conscientiously opposed to foreign missions, church musical instruments and educated pastors."

Referring to the churches, this is said:

"The custom of having revival services, usually called "big meeting," is well established among both the white and negro rural churches. Usually in the midsummer slack-work seasons, after the cotton is 'laid by,' and before picking begins, a series of revival services is featured. These meetings give the once-a-month preachers a chance to stay in the community long enough to get new members. Usually an 'outside' preacher delivers the sermons, affording some swapping association among the preachers. To the church members, dwelling apart in solitary farm houses, the meetings give an opportunity for entertaining the preachers, mingling of neighbors at church, and neighborly visiting between afternoon and evening services. The subject matter of the sermons at these perennial revival seasons is calculatd to arouse people to the need of church membership, and the effectiveness of the series of meetings is usually measured by the 'additions to the church.' These revival meetings are most in evidence where Sunday schools are weakest."

The fact that there are few voters in Montgomery county is referred to and there is much space given to show that floggings have been conspicuous in the county. It is also contended that the county has an excessive percentage of lawlessness. The report concludes:

"The negroes are concentrated on the bigger plantations, and within the landlord-tenant pattern there exists a very cordial relation. Many of the larger plantation owners prefer negro to white tenants. This very fact has resulted in the poor whites looking with disfavor upon both the negro tenants and the plantation owners."

The Screven county case referred to in which a lynching was prevented is that where a negro confessed to entering the home of a farmer, struck the farmer's wife over the head with an ax, and attempted to assault an 18-year-old daughter. This negro, LeRoy Smith, was carried to Augusta for safe keeping, and later tried in Sylvania. He plead guilty and received a sentence of 30 years in the penitentiary. But, despite this plea, the report states the husband of the woman and father of the daughter persisted in declaring he believed the negro innocent.

Louisville, Ky. Courier-Journal

Monday, June 20, 1932

THE LYNCHING OF WALTER MERRICK.

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal.

The worst outrage that has occurred in Caldwell County in over fifty years was the lynching of Walter Merrick at Princeton Tuesday, May 31. Such cowardly and dastardly acts of any militant group of organized terrorists is antagonistic to the altruistic sentiments of mankind and is receding to the brutal practices of the Tenth Century. As long as the law-abiding citizens condone or tolerate such cowardly and bloodly depredations the life of any citizen will be in danger who opposes this 100% un-American and hypocritical order of the Ku Klux Klan. Such acts of murder by mob violence as the lynching of Merrick and the making a widow of a poor, defenseless woman and orphans of five little innocent children is a fair sample of their 100 per cent Americanism; and if that order represents 100 per cent Americanism I will claim from now on that my birthplace and home should be Moscow, Russia. Some politicians of this country and this section of the State took advantage of many of the ignorant and illiterate voters in previous elections and in the Presidential campaign of 1928 with their false propaganda claiming that it was necessary for every true American to join this 100 per cent American order to prevent Al Smith and the Pope from entering the White House, and as a result they swelled the ranks of this sinister organization which represents terrorism and manifests itself ultimately in the diabolical use of the rope and machine gun.

Merrick was arrested and indicted on very little evidence, the strongest being the unreliable evidence of a blood hound, although it was an evident fact that ill feelings existed between Merrick and P'Pool, the victim of the bombing, who was a very strong politician. The bomb was evidently a time bomb made and placed by an expert, while Merrick was only a farmer and it is said had no knowledge of explosives whatever. The authorities openly admitted that he could not have done the work by himself. The county officials made every effort to clear up the mystery by getting two sets of bloodhounds and taking to the scene of the bombing and obtained the services of a detective from Louisville as well as offering a $200 reward, but no more arrests were made. It was rumored that there was danger of mob violence shortly after Merrick's arrest, but he was allowed to remain in the county jail for a few days and was then removed to Louisville, a distance of 200 miles, for safekeeping, while the Eddyville penitentiary is only thirteen miles from Princeton, which indicates that the Jefferson County jail is held in high esteem by the officials of Caldwell County, and the people of Louisville and Jefferson County are to be congratulated upon the safety of their jail since it appears that the officials of Caldwell County, by their conduct in this case, consider it a much safer place than the penitentiary at Eddyville. It is alleged that the real motive for Merrick's removal was for the unlawful act of administering the third degree for the purpose of making him talk, since he had often refused to discuss the case on advice of his counsel, R. W. Lisanby, of Princeton. After several days Merrick was returned to Princeton and held in the county jail in default of $5,000 bond, and his trial was set for June 13, but an organized band of murderous morons carried out the traditional mob rule law of their order and consequently defeated justice.

According to the story of Jailer Curt Jones, the mob forced their way into his room without waking him although they had got through a screen door hooked on the inside and a locked door. They tied the jailer hand and foot, but never gagged him and took his keys from the mantelpiece and unlocked the doors without apparent difficulty which are very hard to open unless a person is accustomed to opening them. They slugged Merrick and took him about two miles from Princeton and hanged him to a tree. He was either dead before they hanged him, as he was badly beaten and mutilated, or died from strangulation, as his neck was not broken. Although Jailer Jones was not gagged, it took him thirty minutes to arouse his wife and daughter upstairs to release him so he could raise an alarm and notify the Sheriff. Evidently the Jones family are very sound sleepers, and I am sure that Mr. Jones has the profound sympathy of this entire community for having the experience of passing through this pathetic ordeal and we shudder at the thought as to what the disastrous result would have been if it had been a fire with all the police gone from the City Hall next door instead of it being just a little mob coming to lynch a man who under the law is supposed to be innocent until proven guilty. The authorities made no attempt to get blood hounds and take to the scene of the lynching or to get a detective as they did when the store of P'Pool's was bombed.

The county officials or Governor Laffoon have neither offered a reward as they did in the bombing case, while the bombing only resulted in an attempt to take a life and the lynching was a combination of felonious crimes and murder.

At the opening of Circuit Court in Princeton June 6, Judge Charles H. Wilson instructed the grand jury briefly in regard to mob violence. Part of his instructions are as follows: "Mob violence is violation of law and the court calls your attention to that and it is your duty to investigate and if you have evidence of the guilty parties it is your duty to indict. It is a serious thing but no more serious than violation of any other law."

In my opinion the greatest danger in a republic is a mob, and as long as mob violence is dealt with in the same dilatory manner as chicken stealing and housebreaking and other law violations, it will only encourage the mob spirit. The deceitful and lawless bands of terrorists will become inbued with the mob spirit and will jeopardize the civil rights of the liberty loving American citizens who oppose such Mussolini forms of terrorism. Those who are most determined to destroy and hang their fellowmen for having committed crimes are at heart criminals themselves and if allowed to continue will rule the country with a rope or other drastic action.

Apparently there is very little mystery surrounding the lynching of Merrick and the case could be broken in twenty-four hours if the people were sure of protection, but those who I am reasonably sure have information are afraid to talk; as they know Merrick received but very little protection and they would be potential victims of the same band of murderers. Merrick was just a poor farmer with no political affiliations and his blood is on the hands of many who were not directly in the mob, but they aided and abetted the murder which makes them, according to law, as guilty as the one who tied the rope around his neck. It is the duty of Governor Laffoon and the Attorney General to investigate this outrage and bring the guilty parties to justice, which would discourage mob violence in this State. But so far he has taken no action and says that he supposes the grand jury will investigate the case. Probably Governor Laffoon is too busy bestowing the honor of Colonel on some out of State politician to take action on investigating as small a thing as a mob murder.

JOHN W. TAYLOR.

Princeton, Ky.

Lynchings-1932

White Press, (Southern)

3644

Discussions.

Chattanooga, Tenn.
NEWS

JAN 2 3 1932

CHAMLEE WROTE LYNCHING STORY, FORUM ADVISES

N. A. A. C. P. Calls Attention of Labor Defense to Attorney's Views.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has taken up with the publishers of the Forum Magazine the article which appeared in the December, 1926, issue of that publication in which George W. Chamlee, lawyer for the International Labor Defense, attempted to explain and justify lynching, according to a letter to The News from Walter White, secretary of the N. A. A. C. P.

Chamlee's denial, as published in The News, that he wrote or authorized the article, and his statement that it was written by another man in Chattanooga, caused Walter White to call upon the Forum to state whether or not Mr. Chamlee is the author of the article and whether or not he in any way repudiated the writing since its publication. After his denial published in The News, Chamlee, in a statement to the morning paper, said he wrote the Forum article. Secretary White also stated that he called the attention of the International Labor Defense to the position of their attorney on the question of lynching.

Says Chamlee Is Author.

I. B. Page of the Forum sent the following reply to White's inquiry:

"We have been in correspondence with a representative in Chattanooga, who reports that Chamlee later acknowledged authorship of the Forum article, but denied having written the brief introductory note which was printed with it. In this contention he is undoubtedly correct, although so long a time has elapsed since publication of the article that it is impossible for us to make a positive statement. The full text of the article itself is in our possession, and agrees with the printed version.

"We are deeply appreciative of your interest and co-operation in bringing the matter to our attention."

In his letter, White also inclosed a sharp rejoinder to Chamlee's argument written by James Weldon Johnson, then secretary of the N. A. A. C. P., which appeared in the February, 1927, issue of the Forum.

Replies to Chamlee.

In his reply to Chamlee, Johnson contended that the majority of Negroes lynched were not charged with rape and that lynching is not "the most effective deterrent to brutal assaults upon white women" and is not the proper means of preventing social equality between the races or preventing intermarriage of members of the white and colored races.

"White mobs have lynched Negroes for unbelievably trivial offenses, for 'talking back' to a white man; for not 'turning out of the road' for a white boy driving an automobile; in fact, rape is not nor has it ever been the cause of lynching except for purposes of propaganda against the Negro," Johnson declared in his letter to the Forum.

"The effort has been made to brand the Negro as a natural rapist, but the fact is that more whites are charged with rape by grand juries each year in the single city of New York and in the single city of Chicago than the total number of Negroes charged with rape by mobs over the whole country. A study of the records for New York county for the year 1917 showed that in that county thirty-seven men, none of them Negroes, were indicted for rape in the first degree. This number was nine more than all the Negroes accused of rape by mobs in the whole country over a period of five years embracing the year 1917," Johnson wrote.

Sets Up "Straw Man."

"Mr. Chamlee sets up a straw man, namely, that the cause of lynching is rape of white women by colored men. In so doing, he ignores the facts and figures," Johnson maintained. "He even ignores the figures regarding lynchings for the year 1925, which he quotes from the report of the N. A. A. C. P. Those figures show that the total number of lynchings for the year was eighteen, and in only six of these cases have the alleged offenses anything at all to do with white women. The authentic records of lynchings kept for the last thirty-eight years and published by the N. A. A. C. P. show that 3,590 persons were lynched, the great majority being Negroes. Of that number, only 616—less than 18 per cent—were even accused of rape by the mob. Furthermore, during that period, there have been ninety-two women lynched. How would Mr. Chamlee dispose of the lynching of women in his argument?" the Negro leader demanded.

The letter written by Walter White to Dr. Henry Goddard Leach, editor of the Forum, follows in part:

"My Dear Dr. Leach—We have just received a copy of The Chattanooga (Tenn.) News of January 13 in which George W. Chamlee of that city makes a very serious charge against the Forum. As it concerns a case in which this association has been deeply interested, we will appreciate your giving us information upon one or two points.

"The story relates to a debate which was printed in the Forum of December, 1926, between Mr. Chamlee and John P. Fort on the subject: 'Is Lynching Ever Defensible?' in which Mr. Chamlee took the affirmative, declaring, among other things, that 'lynching is the most effective deterrent to brutal assaults upon white women. . . It is the community taking the law into its own hands.'

Quotes News Story.

"In The Chattanooga News of January 13 Mr. Chamlee, to quote The News, 'maintained that he did not write the magazine article and that it was not authorized by him.'

"You will, of course, see that this charges that the Forum printed an article bearing Mr. Chamlee's signature and attributed statements to him without his knowledge or authorization.

"Will you be good enough to inform us, first, if Mr. Chamlee is the author of the article and, second, has he at any time since the article was printed verbally, or in writing, or in any other fashion repudiated the article?

"I will be grateful for a reply from you by the bearer, if possible.

"Ever sincerely,
"WALTER WHITE,
"Secretary."

Chattanooga, Tenn.
NEWS

JAN 1 3 1932

CHAMLEE DENIES HE UPHELD MOB RULE IN FORUM

Article Under His Name in 1926 Sought to Explain Lynching.

"I have always been opposed to lynching; everybody knows that ~~and~~ anyone who states anything to the contrary is a liar," declared George W. Chamlee, former attorney-general, when questioned Wednesday concerning an article which appeared in the December, 1926, issue of the Forum Magazine under his name.

The article in question attempted to defend and explain lynching, and appeared in the magazine shortly after Mr. Chamlee was defeated in his race for a second term in the office of attorney-general.

Mr. Chamlee maintained that he did not write the magazine article and that it was not authorized by him. Further than this statement, the lawyer refused to comment upon the article in the Forum. He said that a statement now concerning it would only complicate matters.

Promises Statement.

He promised, however, that within the next few days he would issue a full statement in regard to the charges made against him by Miron Pearlman, young prizefighter, who told Huntsville authorities that Chamlee hired him to furnish whisky to Ruby Bates, one of the alleged criminal assault victims, in the Scottsboro case, and secure from her a repudiation of the testimony she gave at the trial against the eight Negro youths now under sentence of death at Scottsboro. Mr. Chamlee was employed by the International Labor Defense to represent the condemned Negroes.

The attorney, while declining to discuss the charges against him or the item in the Forum, added that when the proper time comes he will talk freely about both.

"I am busy working on this case and I don't want to be interviewed about anything this morning, but in a few days I'll tell you anything you want to know about myself; my life is an open book," the veteran attorney declared.

The attorney took the affirmative of the question, "Is Lynching Ever Defensible?" in his argument published in the Forum, and John P. Fort, at that time a member of The News staff, argued in behalf of the negative.

Says Lynching Effective.

In the magazine under Mr. Chamlee's name was written: "Lynching is the most effective deterrent to brutal assaults upon white women. . . . It is the community taking the law into its own hands." He further declared: "It is next to impossible to understand motives unless there is a kinship of soil, race and ancestry. Men carry their ancestors on their backs, ancestors who constantly whisper into their ears and guide their unwitting hands. Inherited racial antagonism and environmental prejudices are emotional stimuli that whip men to the heat of passion and kindle the sparks of century-old hatreds.

"Even the crime of lynching must be approached carefully or else discussion turns into incessant invective, so bitter that it overlooks the frequent and more ghastly crime perpetrated by the individual against whom 'swift vengeance' was launched.

"Frequently this unreasoning criticism is carried to such an extent that it would make a martyr of a foul murderer or ravisher. In all candor, those men who denounce avenging mobs with such vituperation, and who insist that we southereners in particular actually revel in fiendish bloodshed, would apparently be overjoyed at the prospect of federal or state machine gunners mowing down whole rows of emotionally stirred people in the defense of some senseless, degraded half-animal who with incomparable brutality had outraged a child."

Blames Fear of Equality.

In his article, Chamlee explained that antagonism toward the Negro in the south is not economic, but is founded upon and nourished solely by the dread of "social equality" with intermarriage between the races as the ultimate result. This fear of social equality between the races dates back to slave-holding days, the attorney wrote.

Much of Chamlee's dissertation in the Forum was taken up with a review of the case of the Johnson Negro, who was hanged to the Walnut street bridge in March, 1906, after he had been sentenced to the gallows for an attack upon a St. Elmo white girl.

In concluding his comments on this local case, Mr. Chamlee stated: "I do not think that the men who constituted this mob were savage brutes who took a fiendish delight in slaying a poor wretched fellow-human. I think that they were simply overwrought emotionally and caught in a community reaction to the crime of a brute. A jury of good men from legal evidence had found this Negro guilty of the blackest crime that a man may commit.

Deserved Death.

"If guilty, he deserved death, for he had destroyed the body and mind of an innocent woman. In this particular instance it might with some show of truth be said that the apparent stumbling block of legal delay was an exciting motive to the creation of the mob. This is but a half truth. The assurance of swift legal punishment might have prevented such an outburst. Or it might not.

"As I understand the motives of the mob, they sprang from a deep-seated solidarity of purpose together with strong environmental prejudices. In such affairs, let it be again remembered, it is not the daughter of any one man who is violated, rather she becomes the daughter of the community.

"Men forget church affiliations, social strata and political views when they are swept into an age-old channel of racial feeling, with a flare of primitive vengeance for the crossing of its borders. It is almost impossible for those who are not in contact, through history or environment to theorize correctly upon this subject: though in all probability, viewpoints will change with experience.

"Lynching is the unlawful taking of human life. Let us, so far as possible, be fair and candid with words and actions."

MIAMI, FLA.
NEWS

JAN 1 1932

GRATIFIED GEORGIA WITHOUT LYNCHING

MRS. A. R. LAWTON SAYS DUE TO INTERRACIAL SPIRIT

Members in Savannah of the Interacial Commission of which Rt. Rev. F. F. Reese, D. D., bishop of Georgia is local chairman, and ex-chairman of the state, have expressed great gratification over the fact that Georgia was free from lynchings during the past year. The report for 1931 showed that there were thirteen lynchings during the year, in which nine states were represented.

Mrs. A. R. Lawton, a member of the Interracial Commission and also a member of the committee within the commission known as the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching, stated today that in her opinion it is a point of pride to the state that this situation has been brought about largely by the interracial spirit which exists in Georgia. "The spirit stands out," Mrs. Lawton said, "as something significant, and the understanding which is growing between the white and colored races makes lynchings difficult." Mrs. Lawton expressed herself as believing that the development in this understanding is responsible for the reduction in lynchings, and that the present time is noted for the fact that there is never a question of injustice to the negro race which is not investigated by competent lawyers. Mrs. Lawton referred to a statement just sent out to the women of the association in the commission by R. R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. He said: "In my judgment there has never been a time of greater disposition among the men and women of the white race in the South to manifest an attitude of justice and fairness toward my people than obtains today."

GREENWOOD, S. C.
INDEX JOURNAL

FEB 4 [illegible]

ENCOURAGING

South Carolina has been restored, along with Georgia, North Carolina, Texas, Oklahoma and Indian Territory to the "honor roll" of States in which there were no lynchings in 1931, according to the Commission on Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches.

Thirteen persons were lynched in 1931 in the United States as against twenty-one in 1930.

The figures are encouraging.

BOSTON, MASS
GLOBE

FEB 16 1932

ANTI-LYNCH LAW ASKED BY EQUAL RIGHTS LEAGUE

A resolve was passed to ask President Hoover to recommend a Federal anti-lynching law at a meeting of the National Equal Rights League last night at the Concord Baptist Church, Roxbury, in commemoration of the 115th anniversary of the birth of Frederick Douglass, famous Negro abolitionist.

In the church, which faces Frederick Douglass sq, exercises were held in commemoration of the 15th anniversary of the dedication of the square. Dr W. O. Taylor, executive chairman of the Boston branch of the Equal Rights League, presided. Prof Rayford Logan and Rev E. E. Thompson gave eulogies and James G. Wolff spoke in tribute to Lincoln.

Rev C. C. Williams spoke on "Douglass and the Duty of Today."

Chattanooga, Tenn. News
Friday, February 19, 1932

CHANGE URGED IN SOCIAL VIEWS TO CURB LYNCHINGS

Milton Declares Most Violations Can Be Traced to Drab Conditions in Communities.

Athens, Ga., Feb. 19.—(A. P.)—Reorganization of the south's social viewpoint so "justice rather than hysteria, hate and fear will control the adjudication of responsibility for crime" was recommended as a partial solution to the lynching problem today by a southern newspaper editor.

The editor, George Fort Milton of The Chattanooga (Tenn.) News, an outstanding southern writer and chairman of the southern commission on the study of lynching, spoke here before the Georgia Press institute and said the commission's investigators had found "evidence of a rather extraordinary type to indicate the greater likelihood of lynchings in communities living upon the fringe of hunger and of heartbreak."

"People spiritually as well as economically underprivileged," he added, "seemed quite ready to illuminate their drab, narrow, fruitless lives by the ~~excitements and emotional releases~~ of burning torch and shrieking victim."

Instances Cited.

He used a series of Georgia lynchings to demonstrate his point. One negro, he said, was shot to death in a cell in the county jail at Darien where "for a long series of years . . . the county's economic structure had been progressively breaking down."

Another mob victim died at Ocilla in Iwin county. The average per capita production of that county is only 45 per cent of that of Georgia as a whole and bank deposits in 1929 were but $33.45 per capita compared with $155.89 in Georgia as a whole. He also told of agricultural backwardness at Thomasville, where there was a lynching.

A Negro politician of some standing, S. S. Mincey, Milton said, was killed near Ailey, in Montgomery county, Georgia, in July, 1930. He cited this picture given of the region by the commission he heads.

People Poverty-Stricken.

"The poor whites of Montgomery and surrounding counties are poor indeed. The klan, which they accepted as a way out, has failed them; cotton is cheap; there is no prosperous city to run off to at will. They are emaciated looking and they, with their wives and children, grow old while young. Mothers with sunken chests and practically no teeth, little babies in arms with scabs on their heads and running sores about their ears, boys chewing tobacco before they are half grown and girls staring and popping their gum, and men, women and children with dirty clothes and unkempt persons seething fatalism and pessisms are to be seen on every ahnd. . . . There is much of frontier in this part of Georgia with the virility of the frontier lacking."

The solution of the lynching problem, Milton went on, lies in two types of action. One, he said, is the quickening of the machinery of law to prevent threatened lynchings and punish those who perpetrate them, and the other his recommended reorganization of the south's social viewpoint.

Lynching Child of Ignorance And Poverty, Milton Asserts

Editor Places Responsibility on Press for Social Viewpoint.

Constitution

ATHENS, Ga., Feb. 19.—(AP)—George Fort Milton, editor of the Chattanooga (Tenn.) News, today told the Georgia Press Institute its members shared responsibility for "reorganization of the social viewpoint" so that justice may prevail over hate and fear in fixing responsibility for crime.

He spoke on the same program with Raymond B. Nixon, head of the journalism department at Emory University, who told the editors that proper interpretation through newspapers of the wisdom of scholars is the only means by which the world may solve its growing economic and social problems.

2-20-32

Mr. Milton, a noted writer and chairman of the southern commission for the study of lynching, said that organization had found strong evidence of a direct relation between the prevalence of lynchings and the economic, social and educational status of communities.

"People spiritually as well as economically underprivileged," he said, "seemed quite ready to illuminate their drab, narrow, fruitless lives by the excitements and emotional releases of the burning torch and the screaming victim."

He illustrated with reports from agents of the commission on conditions in Georgia communities where lynchings have occurred in recent years.

Mr. Nixon said newspapers and press associations had been the principal stabilizing influences in the present economic crisis, acquainting men and women with the "characters, failings and necessities" of their neighbors. He said the task confronting the editor was that of "ferreting out the kind of intellectual leadership needed.

"That leadership, I believe," he continued, "is to be found among unbiased thinkers in colleges and universities, and in our own newspaper offices. Only the wisdom of scholars who have the results of years of study and research at their disposal, combined with the technique of editors who know the art of interpreting wisdom to the public, can enable us to solve problems 'so complex they tax human intelligence.'"

He named three editors and three college presidents, Walter Lippmann, Claude G. Bowers, James Truslow Adams, Dr. Glenn Frank, Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler and Dr. Harry W. Chase, as men "whom you will recognize as having a far clearer conception of the real issues confronting our nation and the world today than any of the commonly mentioned candidates for the presidential nomination in either party."

The journalism teacher said newspapers should bring important news into closer relation with the reader to show how an event affects him personally.

He said benefits would accrue from a public school course to teach intelligent newspaper reading for the information of future citizens.

The radio, he said, has inherent limitations of permanence, convenience and selection, and time for rumination and reflection, which will prevent it from taking the newspapers' place as the principal means of disseminating news and views.

Mrs. Mildred Seydell, writer for the Atlanta Georgian, told the institute that official statistics show a decrease in drunkenness and in crime in Sweden since that country adopted a liquor control system in 1917.

Mrs. Seydell went to Stockholm last summer to study the Bratt system, the name given to the liquor regulations of Sweden. Under these regulations, about which she said "there was no united opinion as to their virtue," beer of stronger alcoholic content than 3.2 per cent is prohibited. Spirituous liquors are sold by government-controlled companies, financed by private capital.

She said five men, two from the shareholders, two from the municipal government and one from the national government, control the companies. "Shareholders are permitted only 5 per cent interest on their investment. Any surplus earned by the companies goes to the government. It is said one-fifth of all revenue in Sweden," Mrs. Seydell said, "comes from the liquor

mpanies." Salaries of officials of
e companies are fixed by law.

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stern Recorder
ville Ky
Feb-18-1932

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF LYNCHING?

PRINCIPAL MOTON of Tuskegee Institute sends out the following information about the lynchings of 1931. They numbered thirteen,—eight less than in 1930, but three more than in 1929. Ten of those lynched were in the hands of the law. Seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital, and two had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned. There were fifty-seven instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Seven of these were in Northern and Western States and fifty in Southern States. In forty-five of the instances the prisoners were removed, or the guards augmented, or other precautions taken. Armed forces were resorted to in twelve cases. Of the thirteen persons lynched, one was white and twelve were negroes. The offenses were: murder, five; attempted rape, five; wounding, three. Lynchings were: in Alabama (1), Florida (2), Louisiana (1), Maryland (1), Mississippi (3), Missouri (1), N. Dokota (1), Tennessee (1), and West Virginia (2). These facts are in some respects encouraging to those who have watched the history of this barbarous practice. The defeated attempts to lynch so many speak of a stiffening of the resistance of public officers. The spirit of lawlessness and the evident-basis of most of the cases in race prejudice, are the two things that shame our nation, particularly the South, and call for Christian citizens to be steady in their pressure against these two evils. Whatever excuse for lynching may be made on the plea that the guilty will otherwise miss punishment falls down before the fact that miscarriages of justice seldom occur in connection with those criminals and crimes that provoke lynching.

Lynchings-1932

Discussions.

White Press, (Southern)

3831

Cartersville, Ga., News
Thursday, April 14, 1932

Lynchings of Last Year Deceased

A total of fourteen lynchings was recorded in the United States during 1931, or eleven fewer than the twenty-five reported in 1930, it is announced by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Mississippi led with three, Florida and West Virginia had two each and Alabama, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, North Dakota, Tennessee and Texas each had one. The victim in North Dakota was white.

Two of the persons lynched attacked white women. Six were charged with murder, three with attempted attacks, two with asasult upon a white man and one with wounding a white man. One mob victim, Raymond Gunn, the report says, was chained to the top of a schoolhouse and burned alive at Maryville, Mo. Six were taken by mobs from jails and one from a convict gang. Two men, Richard and Charlie Smoke, were lynched at Blountstown, Fla., after having been released on bail. They were charged with an attack upon a forest ranger.

Charleston, S. C., News & Courier
Wednesday, May 4, 1932

Jurors and Verdicts

After the American fashion people are taking sides in a much-exploited homicidal trial 6,000 miles from Charleston. Far from the scene they believe they can digest the circumstances and that they can find circumstances that justify an admitted lynching. The jury whatever its racial complexion was required to deliberate and to do their duty under their oath. The lynching was sequel to a shocking sex crime, an outrage to stir the blood of decent men everywhere. A high naval officer is quoted as saying, "I feel that justice and the law in the abstract have been upheld." His is not a popular opinion among friends and partisans of the accused.

Wherever it occurs, under whatever circumstances, lynching is lynching. Lynchers take law into their hands. Harsh as it sounds in a particular case, lynchers constitute themselves prosecutor, jury, judge and executioner. There is no escape from this. Swear twelve jurors to sit on a case of admitted lynchers and they must find a verdict of guilty, however tempered, unless they stultify their consciences. The position of the jury is rendered the more embarrassing when public passions are inflamed, when a great section of the public has taken sides militantly.

Here in the Southeast there is welling sympathy for the four who have been convicted. It is understandable. Nonetheless, if law is to have any force, the position of the courts must be respected, and in the case in point the court's position has been unhappy. The judge has faced a most disagreeable duty and so has the prosecutor. The white men of the jury would have liked to acquit the defendants, but lynching was admitted. The defense skillfully played for sympathy. It was led by a famous criminal defense lawyer, a man of ripest experience and resourceful in the last degree. The situation has made the trial of the accused assailants of a young woman more complicated.

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The trial, the preceding crimes, the tragedy, in Honolulu sharply bring home to us all the complexities that arise when white races are thrown into association with other races. The standards and the customs of white men cannot be adjusted to those of the native and Mongolian inhabitants of Hawaii.

The United States attempted on a great scale the conversion of a black race into American citizens, gave them the ballot, protected them with armed forces in the use of it. A conquered white people finally reasserted themselves and, in the face of the hostility of the Washington government, compelled it to concede their terms, leaving to it the alternative of waging a war of extermination against them. In the North were too many white people of hearts and minds instinctively sympathetic with the white South to permit that recourse.

Ten years in the South negroes served on juries. There were negro judges and white judges worse than negroes. That was one of the causes of the growth of Southern lynchings.

After 1876 the courts—judges and juries—passed into the hands of Southern white men. These courts have been, generally habitually, just to the negroes, most of the judges showing a marked disposition to lean toward them on the side of mercy.

Long ago the last shadow of excuse for lynching vanished from the South. If white judges and white juries cannot punish negroes for crimes, if Southern white men must in any case resort to the procedure of savages unknown to the law, they must confess to the failure of what they call the white man's civilization. Whatsoever they have asked in government, so far as the negroes are concerned, has been granted them. The overwhelming majority of the Northern people of all parties, grant it. If we had negro courts, judges and juries, we would have, not lynchings, but anarchy, bloody revolution. We would have had them decades ago.

The seat of government is the jury room. White men occupy it in the South. When white Southerners forget this and lynch they befoul themselves, they are traitors to the white men, the men who won it for them to Hampton and his "Red Shirts" and the "Red Shirts" in all the Southern states. They are the scuttlers of their own ship.

Constitution
5-12-32
Atlanta Ga.

LYNCHING CONDEMNED BY NEGRO CHURCHMAN

CLEVELAND, May 4.—(AP)—Bishop W. Sampson Brooks, of San Antonio, Texas, upheld prohibition and condemned lynching, companionate marriage and birth control here today in an address before the African Methodist Episcopal church quadrennial conference.

"Lynching," he said, "is carried on by persons at the bottom of the scale of intelligence."

Clarkesville, Tenn., Chronicle
Monday, April 18, 1932

The Southern Reputation

That the South has made quite an unfavorable reputation on account of the lynchings in the past was demonstrated Saturday in far-away Hawaii where Lieut. Thomas H. Massie is facing trial for the killing of Joseph Kahahawai. Massie was born in Kentucky and graduated from the U. S. Naval Academy. While on the witness stand he was being questioned by Prosecutor John C. Kelley.

The prosecutor asked him if he were not [illegible]roud of being a native of Kentucky and of being [illegible]d-uate of the U. S. Naval Academy, to which [illegible] replied "yes." He was then asked, "And you ar[illegible]oud of being a Southerner?" Here Clarence Darrow, defense counsel, objected, arguing that the question was for the purpose of injecting prejudice. Darrow was upheld.

It just goes to show that despite our proud history and treasured traditions, because of too frequent lynchings in the South Dixie has received a black name. Every lynching is an insult to every law-abiding citizen. Such ruthless violations of the law, such mob murders, should be frowned upon by every son and daughter of Dixie. Even in Honolulu a defendant, on trial for murder, was not permitted to answer the question, if he is proud of being a Southerner, for fear of prejudicing a jury trying him for the killing of Joseph Kahahawai.

Of course we might respond with indignation that other sections tolerate kidnaping, organized crime rackets and labor difficulties unheard of in the South but we of the South are too much inclined to forgive our sins in looking at the sins of others. The fact remains that we must live down the sinister spirit of the mob. Too often it has stalked through the South

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Memphis Commercial Appeal

The Weakness of the Law Is the Human Element.

Persons in the United States who are railing against certain laws on the ground [illegible] evil in themselves and, therefore, productive of more evil, should read carefully and ponder seriously recent events in Honolulu. Over in Uncle Sam's balmy islands of the South Pacific four otherwise law-abiding Americans are facing a prison sentence on conviction of violating the law of their country's territorial possession. And their violation of tha law resulted from the inability of the law to function.

But the fault did not lie in either of the two statutes. Neither was weak in itself. Both became weak because those commissioned to enforce them as well as those commanded to obey them were weak.

Had the law which prohibits the heinous offense of a criminal attack upon a woman been enforced the crime for which the Americans have been convicted would never have been committed. The young wife of one of the four Americans, an officer in the American navy, was foully outraged and then brutally beaten. It was a crime that demanded quick and complete punishment.

Four Hawaiian natives were arrested. They were identified by the victim as the ones who had violated her person and then beaten her until she sustained a broken jaw. The hospital records and the testimony of physicians, coupled with the identification by the terribly mistreated woman, constituted an open and shut case. Justice demanded condign punishment, but its demands were not heeded. The prisoners secured a mistrial and were released to repeat the same sort of offense if it suited them to do so.

If there can exist a situation wherein the violation of one law and the failure to assess punishment for such violation justifies the violation of another law, it existed in Honolulu when the assailants of Mrs. Thalia Massie secured a mistrial. The immunity of those brutes to immediate and possibly to any sort of legal reckoning naturally inflamed the minds of the husband and mother of the victim beyond all restraint.

One of the Hawaiians who had been the most brutal of all was seized. He was brought to a place where he could be questioned by the husband, the mother and two navy friends of the husband. When he broke down and confessed he was killed.

There may be those who were cynical about the plea of momentary insanity advanced in behalf of the husband. But let them try to consider the reactions upon their own minds of the succession of tragic and brutal happenings that assailed Lieutenant Massie's mind. Let them reflect upon the fact that idle gossips were trying to destroy the character of his wife as a crowning insult to an unforgivable injury. Then let them attempt to conceive their own action when a confession of guilt was made to their very faces.

It was pathetically and tragically unfortunate that the distracted kinsfolk and friends of tha young victim were compelled to take the law into their own hands. But how much more would they have suffered from the taunts and contumely of the crowd if they had allowed the crime to go unwhipped of any sort of punishment. And how severely would their own consciences have denounced their cowardly indifference.

Upon the shoulders of the law officers and the jurors who permitted the initial crime to escape immediate punishment must be saddled a large amount of the blame for the succeeding crime. If court and jury had done their duty in that case there would have been neither opportunity nor occasion for private vengeance.

So it is that we come right back to the fundamental truth that the failure of all our laws lies in the weakness of human agencies commissioned for their enforcement or commanded to their obedience. It is not our laws but ourselves that need improvement.

The conviction of the Americans, therefore, is a reflection on justice because the crime for which they were convicted resulted from the failure of [illegible]stice.

Guntersville, Ala., Advertiser
Wednesday, April 27, 1932

INVOLUNTARY ALLY OF LYNCHERS

An editorial of The Baltimore Sun regretting the refusal of a Grand Jury to indict persons suspected of participating in a lynching in Salisbury and its suggestion that the antilynching laws be amended, "that it would greatly stimulate the lethargy of communities wherein a lynching Grand Jury refused to indict," received the hearty praise of the "The Nation," of New York. It is doubtless well bestowed. In an editorial immediately preceding The Nation says: "Alabama, in short, no longer troubles itself with the unpleasant features provided by an oldtime lynching; but the result for seven young negroes accused of rape on the unsupported testimony of a white woman of highly questionable reputation. will, unless the Federal Supreme Court intervenes be substantially the same."

Thus this New York weekly, pleading for better anti-lynching laws in Maryland, in the same column tries, in its own office, not only the seven negroes convicted in Scottsboro and acquits them, but convicts the law, the Circuit and the Supreme Courts of Alabama.

Ordinarily, The News and Courier would not consider this worth noticing, but it is interested in behalf of the Southern negroes. In Alabama and in most Southern States negroes are tried in white men's courts. Right or wrong (we think it right), this condition will continue. If the courts of Alabama are to be condemned, if they are to be lynched, another court, the court of the "old time lynching," will be substituted for them. The Nation need have no doubt of that. The only way to prevent it would be for The Nation [illegible]d its cult to subjugate Alabama, [illegible]end an army and over-run it. That will not be done.

In Alabama are ruffians, thugs, brutes, murderous lynchers, many of them. They hate the Alabama courts. So does The Nation. The liaison between them and The Nation is perfect, however The Nation is unaware of it.

We can think of nothing more unfortunate for the Southern negroes than would be the attempt by Federal authority to deprive the State of Alabama of the right to try its criminals—for Federal authority in the United States no longer entertains the wish or has the power to trample upon and crush Alabama. Massachusetts and Alabama are at one in the matter of trying criminals whether they be murderers or rapists.

These infatuated defenders of the Scottsboro negroes are curiously without a sense of humor. Had no soldiers been sent to Scottsboro during the trial and a lynching had occurred (there is no reason to say that it would have occurred), they would have denounced Governor Miller and all Alabamians as party to it, accusing them of criminal negligence. The soldiers were sent there was no disorder, no rioting—and they set up the presence of the soldiers as evidence that the negroes could not get a fair trial in Scottsboro! The Nation's expression is all but one of disappointment.

The decent people, the decent press, and the courts will put down lynching in Alabama depsite the unwitting and insane efforts of such agencies as The Nation to incite the ruffian element of Alabama's population against the black people. The Nation does no more than make the task more tedious.—Charleston News and Courier.

Louisville, Ky., Irish American
Saturday, June 25, 1932

SOUTH'S PERCENTAGE OF LYNCHINGS INCREASES.

Although lynchings in the United States have decreased during the past 40 years, the percentage of the nation's lynchings in the south has increased, according to Dr. E. W. Gregory, Jr. sociology professor of the University of Alabama.

For the decade ending in 1899, 82 per cent of the nation's lynchings took place in the south while for the years 1925 to 1929 the percentage was 97.4.

During the 40-year period, Mississippi led with 465, followed by Georgia with 464, Texas with 364 and Louisiana with 349.

During that period 3,703 persons died at the hands of mobs, 2,916 of them being Negroes.

From 1889 to 1899 the yearly average was 187.5 while for the 1920-1929 period the average dropped to 63 a year.

McRae, Ga., Enterprise
Thursday, June 16, 1932

The Enterprise was favored a few days ago with a copy of a phamphlet gotten out by the Southern Commission On The Study of Lynching, George Fort Milton chairman, which rehashes the lynching of S. S. Mincy, colored, in Montgomery county in 1930. We fail to understand what good can be accomplished now by trying to stir up strife between races who have lived together harmoniously and will continue to do so, if let alone by such as George Fort Milton.

DENISON, TEX.
HERALD

JUN 14 1932

LOWER LYNCHING RECORDS.

While reports of most businesses and organizations showed a decline for last year, and therefore make dismal reading, there is one report of a decline that should be gratifying. Reports show that the number of lynchings in the United States decreased from 25 in 1930 to 14 in 1931, and the record so far this year is still smaller. This report is all the more remarkable when it is remembered that a bad depression year usually intensifies class and racial antagonism and makes lynchings more likely rather than less. To make a reduction of 50 per cent in the number of lynchings in a year like 1931 is a real achievement.

There is growing up in the South, where most lynchings occur, an organized sentiment to stop lynchings. A commission has been formed to study lynchings and their causes, and to report the findings through the press. This commission has done some splendid work. How thoroughly it has worked will be understood by those who read its reports and see how minutely it covered conditions on Grayson county, where a regrettable lynching occurred two years ago. This commission sends its representatives into the communities where lynchings have taken place, to study the social, economic and religious conditions, and to apply the results of this survey to the general conclusions as to the cause and cure of the lynching evil. The commission has found that, almost without exception, lynchings have occurred in more or less backward communities, or have been carried out by those from such communities. The average intelligence of those who take part in mobs is lower than that of a 12-year-old child, we are told. Hence, lynchings occur with greater frequency in communities where educational advantages are limited. However, this is not always the case. Several lynchings have taken place within the past year in Northern communities where the average of intelligence was relatively high.

A decline in the lynching record indicates that it may be possible to blot out this evil entirely. The signs of this are encouraging.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK.
GAZETTE

SEP 30 1932

Lynchings Blamed on Abuse Of Pardon and Parole Powers.

To the Editor of the Gazette:

I see considerable comment on the lynching that occurred in this state a few days ago. The reason for such cases is the pardoning and parole system, and the leniency shown in cases tried in the open courts. There occurred in a county of this state a race riot in 1919, having as its beginning the killing of a white man. The next day other men were killed and wounded and also Negroes were killed. The result was martial law declared and the leaders of this riot, Negroes, were picked up at various places in the state. Twelve of them were tried, convicted and given the death sentence. This case was in the courts for some months, due to the amount of money that was contributed from various associations. These men were all freed. Prior to that occurrence there had never been a lynching in that county. The people allowed the law to take its course. A few years after this occurrence a crime was committed in a city of that county and the result was a burning at the stake. The same thing would occur again if a similar crime were committed, I am inclined to believe. I was in that county at the time of the killing, r[illegible] and trials and know the facts. So k[illegible] the pardoning and parole power a[illegible] fixing and court leniency are ab[illegible] lynchings. I have [illegible]ds of Negroes and have not the slightest [illegible] feeling toward the colored race and [illegible] repeat that abuses of the parole and pardoning power are responsible for lynchings.

J. F.

Waldo, Ark

Lynchings - 1932
International Labor Defense Report.

3650

Lynchers Take Big Toll During 1932

The Planet
12-24-32
Richmond, Va.

New York, — (CNA) — The lynchers took another huge toll in 1932.

Thirty-seven instances were reported in the press of lynchings by more or less organized groups. In addition, the tendency to conceal lynchings was more marked this year than previously, for reasons explained elsewhere in this report.

A study made by the League of Struggle for Negro rights, of the records of lynch-terror this year as reported in the press, reveals the following facts:

There are definite reports of 37 cases in which Negroes (and in two instances whites) were lynched by more or less organized groups. Included here is the lynching of a native in Hawaii and the murder of seven Negro firemen in the South. Because of the omission from this total of the enormous number of police murders of Negroes, and because of the undoubted fact that many lynchings were not reported, this total is far too low.

Folowing are the names of those lynched, the place, how killed and the month the crime was committed:

Joseph Kahahawai, Honolulu, shot, January.

Ed Cole, Water Valley, Miss., shot, February.

Cap Johnson, Brooksville, Fla., shot and drowned, February.

Unknown, Brooksville, Fla., found in grave near pond, February.

Unknown, Brooksvilel, Fla., hanged, February.

Ungnown, Brooksville, Fla., hanged, February.

Aaron Williams,* Vicksburg, Miss., shot, March.

Wilbur Anderson,* near Vicksburg, shot, March.

Dave Tillis, Crockett, Tex., hanged, April.

Richard Read (white), St. Francis, Ky., hanged, April.

Percy Berry, New Bern, S. C. beaten and drowned, April.

Will Harvey*, Natchez, Miss., shot, May.

Walter Merrick (white), Princeton, Ky., hanged, May.

Willie Burns, Lucerne, Ark., shot May.

Unknown, Forest City, Ark., shot May.

Clarence Brooker,* Grand Junction, Tenn., shot, June.

Luke Murray, South Point, Ohio shot and drowned, June.

Charles Miller, Opelika, Ala., shot June.

Henry Woods, Jasper, Fla., shot June.

Richard Baker, Caffney, S. C. beaten to death, June.

Edgar Scott,* Macon, Ga., beaten to death, July.

Henry Russell, Newton, Ga., shot, August.

Ralph Horton, Boone, N. C., shot, September.

Shadrack Thompson, Warrenton, Va., hanged, September.

Frank Tucker, Crossett, Ark., hanged, September.

Judge Crawford, Senatobia, Miss., shot September; with him were shot down his wife, three sons, a daughter and a son-in-law.

Frank Kincaid,* Canton, Miss., shot, November.

Henry Campbell, Mullins, S. C., shot, November.

Ed Dunlap, Greenvile, Miss., shot, November.

William House, Wisner, La., hanged, November.

George Green, Gretnavile, Miss., shot, November.

*Railway workers killed by an organized murder ring.

All these are cases reported in the press, in which persons were lynched by shooting, hanging, burning or drowning at the hands of organized groups.

I. L. D Reports First Lynching of 1933

Afro
1-21-33
New York
N.Y.

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—The International Labor Defense is investigating the circumstances of the killing of an unnamed Negro here which may turn out to be the first lynching of 1933.

The Negro was chagred with the usual "attempted rape," which is the cry usually raised against Negroes when they try to assert their economic rights, such as collecting their wages. Three white men, Ernest Crook, his son, B. C. Crook, and his son-in-law, W. R. Blakeey, reported to police they killed him when he tried to escape from their car as they were bringing him into town. B. C. Crook admitted having fired the shot that killed him. All three were technically charged with murder.

Nine Lynchings Reported to I.L.D. in Jan. and Feb.

Afro-American
3-18-33
Baltimore Md.

NEW YORK—Nine lynchings have been reported in the press during the months of January and February, 1933, it was announced last week by the International Labor Defense. The list does not take into account the large number of police killings which are rapidly taking the place of the old-fashioned kind of lynching in which mobs of hundreds often took part, nor does it count legal lynchings which have also become popular with the white ruling class. In every case reported three or more persons in an organized manner, committed the lynching. Every victim was a Negro.

1. Harry Ross was shot and killed January 3 by three white men, outside of Memphis, Tenn. They reported they were taking him into the city to lay charges of "having made improper proposals to a white woman" against him, when he "tried to escape" from their moving car.

2. Fell Jenkins, 20, was beaten to death by three white farmers, at Aycock, La., January 11. They said he had been trespassing on the property of one of them.

3, 4, and 5. Three members of a Negro family of fishermen were hacked to death on Tavernier Island, one of the Florida Keys, January 19, by an invading gang of white men. Their names were not reported in the press, and authorities have not responded to queries for more details.

6. Robert Richardson was shot to death in Baton Rouge, La., February 2, while "attempting to escape" from a gang of 25, headed by a deputy sheriff, which raided his house on a report, given out later, that he "had annoyed a white woman".

7. Nelson Nash, 24, was hanged from a tree by a gang of men at Ringgold, La., February 19.

8. George Jeter died February 19, at Aiken, S.C., from a beating administered by three white men who later said he had "stolen their whiskey."

9. Levon Carlock, 19, beaten, tortured and shot to death by six policemen in Memphis, February 25. 1933.

Lynchings-1932

Federal Council of Churches.

3651

Honor Roll of Non-Lynching States In '31 Announced

Independent

2-4-32

Atlanta, Ga.

New York, Jan. 24—Thirty-nine states were on the Honor Roll of states free from lynchings in 1931 according to a list published today by the Commission on Race Relations, Federal Council of Churches. In announcing this annual anti-lynching Honor Roll, Dr. George E. Haynes, secretary of the Commission, stated: "The record shows that in 1930 the same number of states and in 1929 three more states than in 1931 were free from lynchings. There has thus been a loss during the past two years in the number of states free from the evil. Six states, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, North Dakota, Tennessee and West Virginia," he continued, "that had been on the Honor Roll in previous years, were removed because of the reappearance of lynching in their territory in 1931; and six states, Georgia, Indiana, Oklahoma, North Carolina, South Carolina and Texas, were restored because again free from lynching during the past year. The total number of victims, however, decreased from 21 in 1930 to 13 in 1931.

"All of these states that lost their places have been on the Honor Roll in other years. Maryland had been free of lynching since 1911, North Dakota since 1914, West Virginia since 1920, Missouri since 1927 and Tennessee since 1929. Only two states, Florida and Mississippi, have never been eligible to the Honor Roll."

In pointing out some trends shown in the record of states Dr. Haynes said, "Two significant trends in lynching are indicated by the experience of last year. First, constant vigilance of the press, the churches and the people of a state is necessary to protect their territory from lynchers once it has become free. Six states gained places on the Honor Roll but six other states lost their places.

"Second, preventions of lynchings as recorded by the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute show that instances of lynchings prevented have been greater for several years than the number of atrocities committed. In 1931 fifty-seven [illegible] were recorded and in all of these officers of the law preventer the lynchings. There seems to be a decided gain in the growing public opinion in support of officers of the law who protect and defend prisoners in their charge even if use of force becomes necessary. The fact that more preventions have been recorded than lynchings seems also to indicate that the mob spirit must be conquered before America can become a lynchless land. This is a special responsibility of the Churches."

Independent

2-4-32

Atlanta Ga.

The Honor Roll of states free from lynching in 1931, as announced by the Commission on Race Relations, Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, is as follows:

States that never have had a recorded lynching: Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont.

States that have no record of a lynching since 1886: Maine and New Jersey.

States that have no record of a lynching the past twenty-five years: Delaware, Michigan, Wisconsin.

States that have no record of a lynching the past twenty years: Idaho, Iowa, Nevada, South Dakota.

States that have no record of a lynching the past fifteen years: New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania.

States that have no record of a lynching the past ten years: Arizona, California, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Washington, Wyomning.

States that have no record of a lynching the past five years: Illinois, Ohio, Utah, Virginia.

States that have no record of a lynching for the past two years: Arkansas ,New Mexico, Kentucky.

States that have no record of a lynching during 1931: Georgia, Indiana, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Texas.

Total states still having lynching in 1931, 9.

Total states free from lynching in 1931, 39.

Total states free from lynching in 1930, 39.

Total states free from lynching in 1929, 43.

Total number of victims in 1931 (12 Negroes, 1 white), 13.

Total number of victims in 1930, 21.

Total number of victims in 1929, 10.

LAW'S ~~VICTORY SEEN~~ IN LYNCHING REPORT

Constitution

2-1-31 ~~Montgomery~~

NEW YORK, Jan. 31.—(AP)—Thirty-nine states which had no lynchings in 1931 are placed on the honor roll published today by the commission on race relations, federal council of churches.

Atla.

In announcing the honor roll, Dr. George E. Haynes, secretary of the commission, said six of the states not present had been on the honor rolls of other years—Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, North Dakota, Tennessee and West Virginia. Three—Florida, Mississippi and Alabama—had never appeared in the honor list, he said.

A feature of the survey was the drop in the number of victims from 21 in 1930 to 13 in 1931.

Dr. Haynes called attention to the fact that 57 attempted lynchings were frustrated by officers of the law in 1931, in drawing the conclusion that the forces of law and order have been gaining the upper hand for several years.

Atlanta

Ga.

Public sentiment, he said, was becoming more intolerant of lynch law and mob tactics, but he added that the church and the newspapers still had a task to perform.

The report especially commended Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont, which never have recored a lynching; Maine and New Jersey, which have not had one since 1886; Delaware, Michigan and Wisconsin, which have not had one for 25 years; Idaho, Iowa, Nevada and South Dakota, none for 20 years; New York, Oregon, and Pennsylvania, none for 15 years; Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Washington and Wyoming, none for 10, and Illinois, Utah, and Virginia, and Ohio, none for five years.

ONLY TWO STATES HAVE NOT MADE ANTI-LYNCH ROLL

2-29-32

Atlanta Ga.

NEW YORK, Feb. 28.—(AP)—Only two states, Florida and Mississippi, have never appeared on the "honor roll" of states free from lynchings issued by the commission on race relations of the Federal Council of Churches.

Several weeks ago, the Associated Press included Alabama as one of the states which had never appeared in the list. The Federal Council of Churches said today Alabama was on its "honor roll from [illegible] through 1929."

The Associated Press is glad to correct the misstatement which appeared in its earlier dispatch.

NEW YORK TIMES

FEB 1 1932

NO LYNCHINGS IN 39 STATES

Church Council Reports Number of Killings Dropped to 13 in 1931.

An "honor roll" of thirty-nine States in which there were no lynchings in 1931 was issued yesterday by the Commission on Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches.

"The record shows the same number of States free from lynchings in 1930 and 1931," said Dr. George E. Haynes, secretary of the commission. "In 1929 three more States were without lynchings than in 1931. There has thus been a loss during the last two years in the number of States free from the evil. Six States, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, North Dakota, Tennessee and West Virginia, that have been on the honor roll in previous years were removed because of the reappearance of lynching in their territory in 1931. Six States, Georgia, Indiana, Oklahoma, North Carolina, South Carolina and Texas, were restored because they were again free from lynchings during the last year. The total number of victims, however, decreased from twenty-one in 1930 to thirteen in 1931."

Only two states, Florida and Mississippi, have never been on the roll, according to the statement.

NEWS & HERALD
NEWBURYPORT, MASS.

FEB 10 1932

LYNCHING HONOR ROLL.

An "honor roll" of states entirely free from lynching in the course of a year is named annually by the commission on race relations of the Federal Council of Churches. In 1931 it contained 39 states, the same number as in 1930 but three less than in 1929. Six states, formerly on the honor roll, were taken off this year because of lynchings in 1931. Six others, not on the 1930 list, were restored to it in 1931. Only two states have never been on the honor roll since its inauguration.

The persistence of lynching anywhere in the country is a terrible thing, but there is evidence of real progress in a study of the records over a considerable period. From hundreds and scores, the number of yearly lynchings has dropped to tens. The lowest number was 10 in 1929. That was followed by a bad record of 21 in 1930. Last year was better again, with only 13.

It is bad enough to have even one lynching a year, but there has been gratifying progress and there will be more as illiteracy and prejudice give way before education and tolerance.

BURLINGTON, IA.
HAWK-EYE

FEB 14 1932

LYNCHING HONOR ROLL

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It is bad enough to have even one lynching a year, but there has been gratifying progress and there will be more as illiteracy and prejudice give way before education and tolerance.

TIMES
GLOUCESTER, MASS.

FEB 9 1932

LYNCHING HONOR ROLL

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Dr. Haynes Explains Action of Church in Lynching Probe

Defender 4-9-32

NEW YORK, April 8.—In reply to incorrect articles which appeared in two well-known weekly newspapers to the effect that the federal council had turned down a report recently made at its request by Prof. Broadus Mitchell of Johns Hopkins university on the lynching [illegible] Salisbury, Md., a statement was issued by Dr. George E. Haynes, secretary of the commission on race relations, Federal Council of Churches.

Chicago Defender

"The incorrect articles in question," Dr. Haynes said, "were apparently based upon a story in a Maryland daily paper which pieced together extracts from paragraphs of two letters of the general secretary of the federal council out of a voluminous correspondence with more than a score of citizens of Maryland following publication of extracts given out by the federal council from a report made to it by Professor Mitchell. The idea that the federal council has turned down the report is entirely incorrect. This erronerous idea grew out of the misunderstanding of the reasons for not publishing the full detailed report of Professor Mitchell in the information service of the federal council.

Details Main Issues

"The main issues in the Maryland affair and the inquiry into it," continued Dr. Haynes, "were that a human being was taken wounded from a hospital and hanged by a mob and his body burned; what had been done by local citizens and officers to prevent the occurrence; what were the conditions back of the lynching; what has been done by people of conscience to condemn it after it occurred and to apprehend the lynchers and to bring them to account before the law and the conscience of the community.

"Secondary issues about the procedures of the federal council were raised in the newspaper discussion and correspondence that followed Professor Mitchell's investigation and the publication in the newspaper of extracts from his report as follows: What responsibility the federal council assumed in asking Professor Mitchell to make the investigation; in releasing parts of his report for publication; the accuracy in details of the facts and findings of the report, and who authorized the action taken by the staff of the federal council.

Using Strategy

"The major object in arousing the conscience of church people had been achieved by the wide publicity given the main points of the report in the daily press," continued Dr. Haynes. "It seemed clear, and well informed friends advised that to give further publicity to the detailed report in official publications would furnish help to those who were seeking to discredit the report by trying to shift the issues from the primary matters of the lynching itself to the secondary isues of the federal council's technical procedures. We have not bowed one single inch to mob law or lynching sentiment, but we are using what seems the wisest strategy in the crusade of the churches for a lynchless land in America."

De[illegible] 4/9/32

HAYNES CORRECTS STORY ABOUT MARYLAND LYNCHING

Southern Christian Recorder

Wew York, March 31 —In reply to incorrect articles which appeared in two well-known weekly newspapers to the effect that the Federal Council had turned down a report recently made at its request by Prof. Broadus Mitchell of Johns Hopkins University on the lynching of a Negro at Salisbury, Maryland, a statement was issued to day by Dr. George E. Haynes, secretary of the Commission on Race Relations, Federal Council of Churches.

4-7-32

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[illegible] News

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(THE END)

6

Haynes Corrects Story About Maryland Lynching

Enterprise-Blade

(Special Enterprise Blade)

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4-6-32 Milwaukee

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Lynchings-1932

3652

Federal Council of Churches.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX.
EXPRESS
JUN 3 1932

ANTI-LYNCHING ACTIVITY OF THE CHURCH COUNCIL

Reviewing its ten-year campaign against the lynching evil, in its latest annual report the Federal Council of Churches—with headquarters in New York—promises a more intensive educational campaign during the next few months.

The fact that some authorities have attributed the increase in mob violence during the past year or so to the economic emergency, lends special significance to such an effort. At the same time the Council will devote attention to the related question of economic justice for all racial groups. Of course, fair-minded citizens generally will assent to the proposition that injustice of any sort harms the entire community.

In addition to its educational work—through member churches and other agencies—the Council proposes hereafter to send a field expert to study at first hand the circumstances surrounding each lynching as it occurs. The data thus gathered will be analyzed to determine the underlying cause of the outbreak. However, the recent experience of students, sociologists and writers who attempted to investigate the trouble in the Kentucky coal fields suggests a possible obstacle to the scheme.

Even so, all decent citizens of the community thus plagued should welcome the fullest inquiry. To be sure, the duty of investigating every mob crime devolves upon the constituted authorities. Theoretically, the grand jury should examine witnesses, get at the facts and return indictments accordingly; then the sheriff, the prosecutor, the trial jury and the judge, in turn, each should do their duty. But in practice the mob murderer rarely is indicted and even more rarely tried and convicted. Either the officials secretly approve of the lynching or—in servile fear of mob sentiment—they remain inactive. The one mental attitude is as reprehensible as the other—and without such official acquiescence, lynching could not persist as it does.

Assuming that too many authorities are thus supine and that civic conscience remains asleep, about the only line of attack left open in each instance is to get the facts and publish them to the world. By that means all the community could be brought to trial in the court of public opinion. It is barely possible that dealing with each specific crime in that manner will prove more effective than a crusade against lynching collectively.

AMERICA CAN BE LYN'HLESS, SAYS CHURCH COUNCIL

Journal and Guide

Bishop McConnell Retires After Many Years' Service

12-17-32

Norfolk Va.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind.—The Sixth Quadrennial Session of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America was held in Hotel Severin, December 6-9. Bishop Francis J. McConnell retired from the presidency of the church body, and Dr. Albert W. Beaven, president of Colgate-Rochester Divinity School was elected successor.

Speakers from China and several European countries in addition to American delegates addressed the gathering on religion, evangelism, social service, economics, and other questions of world importance. An address on world peace was made by President Mary E. Wooley, a member of the recent Disarmament Conference in Geneva. Delegates were in attendance from the National Baptist Convention, the A. M. E. Church, the A. M. E. Zion Church and the C. M. E. Church, all constituent denominations of the Federal Council.

The Council's Commission on Race Relations, George E. Haynes and Katherine Gardner, secretaries, held its annual session on the night of the 8th with an interracial banquet and program at the Severin Hotel Inn where the entire quadrennial delegation was housed.

Notes Church Advance

The report on the Commission's eleventh year of work, prepared by Dr. Haynes and his associates including Bishop George C. Clement, chairman of the Commission, and Mrs. Eva Hills Eastman, chairman of the Committee of Direction, stressed the advance made by churches and allied agencies for race relations, presenting in chosen language and clear thought the problems of interracial adjustment which the Commission has attacked and aided in solution.

The features of the report which evoked the largest interest were in the recommendations on civic justice in race relations, the problem of segregation and equality of economic opportunity for Negro workers.

"It is imperative that individual Christians, church organizations and allied agencies should stand for impartial trial by due processes of law of all persons accused of crime," the report states, "lest the very processes of the law become permeated with the lawless spirit." It was pointed out that only two states—Mississippi and Florida—had never been on the Honor Roll of states free from lynching.

Sees Lynchless U. S. A.

"The downward trend of lynching from 57 victims in 1922 to 7 in the first ten months of 1932," the Commission stated, "clearly indicates that it is possible for America to become a lynchless land. The Commission cannot claim that its work was the principal factor in producing these results in the reduction of lynching, but the activities and influence of the churches in arousing the public conscience have undoubtedly played an important part in this decline."

Regarding the problem of racial segregation, the Commission finds that "misunderstandings, fears, and injustices have given rise to widespread forcible separation and segregation of racial groups."

The speakers at the banquet included Mrs. Harrie R. Chamberlin, chairman National Convention .Y W. C. A.; Miss May Belcher, secretary Y. W. C. A., Indianapolis; Dr. B. Y. Landis, associate director of research of the Federal Council, under whose department the Commission is making a survey of agricultural conditions among white and Negro farmers in certain sections of the South.

Many Notables Present

Other notable guests included John M. Glenn, chariman of Board of Russell Sage Foundation; Bishop Reverdy C. Ransom, Bishop C. H. Phillips, Bishop George C. Clement, Bishop W. J. Walls, Bishop and Mrs. L. W. Kyles, Dr. W. H. Jernagin, Miss Louise Young, professor Scarritt College, Nashville; Rev. Irving K. Merchant, who will join the staff of the Commission in 1933: R. B. DeFrantz, Secretary Y. M. C. A., Indianapolis, and Mrs. Annie E. Malone, president Poro College.

The report of the Commission, as adopted at the banquet session, with recommendations for an advance program was presented by Bishop Reverdy C. Ransom to the Quadrennial session the following morning. Preceding this presentation, Miss Louise Young spoke forcibly on the teaching function of the church and its duty in creating Christian race relation s.

The report and recommendations were received by the Quadrenial session with much enthusiasm

Council Adopts Race Relations Plan

Chronicle 12-17-32

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Regarding the problem of racial segregation, the Commission finds that "misunderstandings, fears, and injustices have given rise to widespread forcible separation and segregation of racial groups. These influences produce cleavages which cut through the very structural organization of the church and allied agencies and seriously cripple their spiritual ministry, their fellowship, their worship, and their religious instruction. The spiritual resources of Jesus Christ will be released through the hurch and allied organizations only when they grapple with these fundamental issues."

Delegates from constituent denominations of the Federal Council included Rev. W. H. Jernagin, Rev I A Thomas, Rev W F Lovelace from the National Baptist Convention, Rev F M Reid, Mrs Sada Anderson, Rev Joseph Gomez, Bishop Reverdy Ransom, Dr R L Pope from the African Methodist Episcopal Church; Bishop and Mrs L W Kyles, Bishop George Clement, Bishop W Walls, Rev H J Callis from the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church; Bishop C H Phillips of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church. Other notable guests included John M Glenn, chairman of the Board of Russell Sage Foundation; Miss Louise Young, professor, Scarrit College, Nashville; Rev. Irving Merchant, who will join the staff of the Commission in 1933. R B DeFrantz, secretary YMCA. Indianapolis, and Mrs. Annie E. Malone, president, Poro College.

Lynchings-1932
6

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Alabama.

3764

Workers! Prevent the Murder of Negro Children!

~~Daily Worker~~

3-25-32

THE Supreme Court of Alabama yesterday decreed that seven of the nine innocent Negro boys framed up at Scottsboro shall be burned in the elecrtic chair on May 13.

The Communist Party calls upon the masses, Negro and white, of this country and of all countries of the world to throw this cold-blooded crime of the Alabama ruling class back into the teeth of the ruling class murderers. We call upon the working class of this country and the world to snatch these innocent children from the hands of the legal murderers of Alabama and to comple their release.

There is no man or woman who does not know that these friendless Negro lads are innocent of all crime. They were deliberate framed up, two prostitutes terrorized and persuaded to bear false witness against them after the prostitutes had themselves at first declared the boys innocent. The capitalist-feudal ruling class of Alabama, which is already responsible for the cold-blooded murder of scores of Negro men, women and children during the past year, now decides to proceed with a brutality that would shock the worst tyrants of the middle ages to burn alive seven innocent children of the Negro people and the working class. The fact that these children are to be burned on the electric chair does not change the character of this lynching. It is identical with the many other orgies of murder when human beings are burned at the stake on the public square.

New York, N.Y.

The capitalist-feudal ruling class of Alabama, backed up by the Wall Street government at Washington, is proceeding with this murdre as a part of a wide campaign to terrorize and suppress the Negro masses and to crush the spirit of the working class, black and white. The decision of the Alabama Supreme Court to murder these boys is a direct continuation, by slightly different means, of the policy of lynching that has already claimed thousands of victims in this country and which has made the name of American capitlaism synonymous with burder, The intended burning of these innocent boys is a continuation of the policy of shooting down unemployed Negro and white workers in Chicago, Cleveland and Kentucky. It is a continuation of the policy of unrestricted terror against the toiling masses that was shown in Detroit, where Henry Ford's policemen deliberately firing upon a mass of workers demanding employment, resulting in the death of four.

The policy of ruthless violence against the masses is becoming more open in the effort of the parasite ruling class to place upon the working masses the burden of the economic crisis by which the capitalist system is being undermined. The wave of murderous terror against the Negro people nad the white and black working class is directly connected with the preparations rapidly being made by United States imperialism to plunge this country into the second impreialist world war. The regime of bloody terror over the laboring masses of the United States is intended not only to enable the wealthy parasite class to escape the crisis by throwing its burdens upon the working class and laboring farmers, but is a direct part of the preparations of this country for imperialist war for the cnslavement of the Chinese people, for an imperialist world war against the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics.

The political character of the decision of the Alabama Supreme Court to murder these innocent Negro boys is clearly revealed by a long succession of events. Nearly all lynching and frame-up cases are immediately connected up with developing struggles, especially struggles between Negro share-croppers and their white landlord exploiters, as in the case of Camp Hill, Ala., where Negro share-croppers were shot to death for organizing a union, and also in the case of Orphan Jones and Mathew Williams in Maryland, the case of Barney Lee Ross in Texas, in which the capitalist governor of that state, in approving the legal murder of the innocent Negro, declared:

"It may be that this man is innocent, but it is sometimes necessary to burn a house in order to save avillage."

This is the attitude of the white capitalist and landlord classes of America. The burning of Negro children, even though the whole world knows they are innocent of crime, is necessary in order to save the rotten capitalist wage slave system by terrorizing the working people and reducing them to the status of dumb driven cattle.

The Communist Party calls the attention of the masses of Negro people and working class black and white to the shameful part that the so-called "National Association for the Advancement of Colored People" and the so-called "Socialist Party" are playing in this bloody crime against the Negro masses. In order to preserve the capitalist system, and in order to serve the interests of their white masters, Negro agents of the capitalist class such as Walter White, William Pickens and other leaders of the NAACP, as well as all of the spokesmen for the Socialist Party, have actively intervened to help in the murder of the nine Negro boys of Scottsboro. The NAACP deliberately caused the shooting and arrest of many Negro workers for daring to protest against the Scottsboro murders. It has, thru the renegade Negro leaders Pickens and White, actively called upon and aided the Alabama State authorities in violent suppression of protest meetings of Negro and white workers in Alabama who met to protest against the frame-up. The NAACP and Socialist Party have deliberately tried to prevent any organization of protest and have even stolen the funds of the Negro workers who wished to contribute to the legal defense of these innocent boys. Without the help of these agents of capitalism, it would not have been possible for the Alabama ruling class to proceed so complacently with this judicial murder.

But the fate of these innocent Negro boys still rests in the hands of the masses! All nine of the boys would already have been murdered if the working class and Negro masses had not already raised their voices in protest. But the protest has not been sufficiently strong! The masses now must move. The working class, Negro and white, must organize such a mass protest of tens of millions as will compel the bloody-handed ruling class of Alabama to desist from this hideous crime.

The fate of the nine innocent Scottsboro boys is in the hands of the working class.

Workers, Negro and white, support the International Labor Defense and the League of Struggle for Negro Rights ni the fight against the effort of the slave system to burn alive our innocent children!

It is a part of the struggle against slavery! It is a part of the struggle against lynching! It is a part of the struggle for the right of self-determination for the Negro masses! It is a part of the struggle for equal rights of Negro and white! It is a part of the struggle against slavery, starvation and imperialist war.

Every working class organization, every sympathetic group, every meeting of workers must thunder their protest against this lynch verdict and demand the immediate and unconditional release of these innocent victims of class justice and national oppression. The struggle against the Scottsboro verdict must be an integral part of the militant anti-war demonstrations on April 6.

Workers! Voice your anger against this murder! Voice your determination to save these Negro child—victims of capitalism!

Smash the lynch terror against the Negro masses. Smash the Scottsboro lynch verdict. Build a fighting alliance of Negro and white workers against imperialist oppression.

Central Committee Communist Party U.S.A.

The Negro and White Masses Must Save the Scottsboro Boys

Daily Worker

THE decision of the Alabama Supreme Court upholding the death verdict against seven of the nine innocent Negro boys framed up at Scottsboro, Alabama—is a ghastly confession of intention to put through a lynching in legal forms.

3-26-32

Let the masses of Negroes—let the workers and tenant farmers, black and white—understand this declaration of war against the toiling masses! It is a forerunner of the most terrific struggles in America. It is a declaration which overshadows the famous decision of more than three-quarters of a century ago concerning the Negro slave, Dred Scott.

The Supreme Court decided that the Negro slave must be returned to his master. **But that "final word" was overruled by the roar of cannon in the American Civil War of 1861!**

The murderous decision of the Alabama Supreme Court will also be overruled!

New York, N.Y.

Already the mass actions of the Negro and white workers in all American cities—and in fact the international actions of the working class—**have already scored a partial victory** in securing even the little that has been won. We must see that even in the face of the ghastly determination of the capitalist courts to slaughter these nine innocent Negro children—nevertheless the unanimity of the Alabama Supreme Lynch Court was broken. The fact that the Chief Justice of the Court dissented from the callous crime of the majority decision and declared that the circumstances must

> **"impress the judicial mind with the conclusion that they did not get a fair and even impartial trial that is required and contemplated by our constitution,"**

is a result of the tremendous mass pressure that has already been exercised by the agitation of the International Labor Defense, the League of Struggle for Negro Rights, and by masses of black and white workers under the **leadership of the Communist Party.**

We are not blind to the role of demagogy, which plays the part of giving an air of "fairness" to capitalist courts which nevertheless continue to grind out murderous verdicts against the exploited masses. But nevertheless certain facts, such as, first, the delay won against the first sentence of death which would otherwise have been carrid out last summer, and second, the present division of the Supreme Court, are a demonstration of the fact that the masses can compel the heartless ruling class to withhold its hand in some of the worst of the murder drives against our class.

It is true that the appeal to the United States Supreme Court which will now be taken by the International Labor Defense with the support of the Communist Party, is an appeal from a capitalist court to another capitalist court, and **the same hatred toward the Negro masses and the working class will govern whatever actions are taken by the United States Supreme Court.** But the masses can and must compel the ruling class to hesitate in this contemplated historic murder of nine innocent Negro children as a means of terrorizing a whole nation of slaves!

In every street, in every city and town, in every industrial center—the ten thousand fold masses must turn out to voice their wrath against this crime of the ruling class. Let the voice of the black and white masses be heard, not only in protest against the direct murderers of our children but also against the loathesome assistant lynchers—the scoundrels of the type that lead the "National Association for the Advancement of Colored People." All can see the fruits of the cowardly corruption of the renegade Negro leaders and white millionaire leaders of the N.A.A.C.P.—who support capitalism at the cost of the lives of innocent children of the Negro people! Let the masses demonstrate to the N.A.A.C.P. leaders the masses' attitude toward those who make agreements with pro-tion of a framed up "Nigger trial" and the death of innocent boys! Let the masses of Negro and white workers show what they think of Mr. Walter White and Mr. William Pickens, who are responsible for a dishonest "defense" attorney who openly joined the prosecution by refusing in the juror's presence to ask for a verdict of acquittal against these innocent boys!

Let the denunciation of this bloody crime ring around the world! Out on to the streets! Hold your mass demonstrations in every city and town! Negro workers and white workers—turn out by hundreds of thousands in the great demonstration of April 6 which will be a demonstration against imperialist war and at the same time a demonstration against the bloody murder verdict on the innocent Negro boys of Scottsboro!

Scottsboro and the I. L. D.

New Republic

SIR: On January 21 the eight Scottsboro boys come before the Alabama State Supreme Court to appear for a new trial The entire burden of the legal defense is being borne by the International Labor Defense, and in this work the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners is coöperating.

On the afternoon of Sunday, January 17, at the New School for Social Research, the National Committee is sponsoring a protest meeting during which its position and the plight of the Scottsboro boys will be completely dealt with. However, even before that time certain aspects of the case should be put before your readers.

The abandonment of the Scottsboro case by Clarence Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hays has awakened an attack less against the Alabama courts than against the only defenders of the boys. Specifically, charges are being made against the International Labor Defense that it has been "'using' the incident rather than trying to save the men." Whatever the merit of this charge may be, it must be noted, first, that the attackers of the I. L. D. have allowed their attention to be withdrawn completely from the Alabama court, which sentenced the boys, and the Alabama merchants who made a fête of the verdict; and second, that had it not been for the immediate steps taken to obtain a new trial, and public pressure aroused, by the International Labor Defense, the Scottsboro boys would have died on schedule July 10.

1-20-32

The recent desertion—and I think we must call it that—of the Scottsboro boys by Mr. Darrow and Mr. Hays is certainly unfortunate. Perhaps it is doubly unfortunate because on April 10, the day after the Scottsboro convictions, Mr. Darrow was approached by the I. L. D. and asked to enter the case. He not only refused to do so, but even refused to make any public statement favorable to the boys, giving as his reason his belief that to fight such a case in Alabama was an impossible job, too difficult even to attempt. I think that no one underestimates the importance of his legal ability, but we must also take into account the fact that no labor case can be won in the courts alone. To believe otherwise would be to take a very naïve view of their impartiality. I think that you and your readers as well as ourselves must recognize by this time that the courts are not just, not impartial, not even altogether swayed by the "meaning of the law."

New York, N.Y.

In labor cases, certainly, public opinion has its say. And it is precisely organized, and therefore effective, public opinion that Mr. Darrow refuses to have associated with his name in this case. Mooney was saved from execution by the protests of the great masses of men, as far from California as Russia, led by a Red named Lenin. For the purpose of this discussion we might even cite the case of Dreyfus, and Emile Zola's undignified, noisy and even "red," but certainly effective, and later widely acclaimed efforts to save him.

Vol. LXIX, no. 894

Nothing in this letter, of course, can be taken to mean that in the Scottsboro case or in any other, legal defense can be underestimated. In Scottsboro we are helping to pay for the services of a corps of lawyers with whom Darrow could coöperate, but which already has at its head General George Chamlee, a prominent *Southern* attorney in no way tarred by radicalism nor suspect because he is a "foreigner." This may make a less sensational trial than occurred in Dayton, Tennessee, but it will certainly be less personal. We have every reason to hope for success. If we fail, it will be not because protest has been too wide, but because it has been too weak—because the International Labor Defense, ourselves, and the other friends of the Scottsboro boys will have failed to arouse decisive public protest. Certainly, to the boys' attorneys and the I. L. D., the paramount thought is the lives of eight working boys, who happen also to be Negroes.

Certainly we do not propose to desert the Scottsboro boys for factional reasons. We feel it is our duty to call on you and your readers to stand with us in their defense. Wherever your or their previous sympathies may have been, the fact remains that the International Labor Defense and its supporters now stand alone between these boys and death, and that the defendants themselves, their families and the lawyers have again affirmed their faith in the I. L. D., their belief in and desire for the defense it offers, supported by the workers who compose it.

MELVIN P. LEVY, Secretary,
National Committee for the
Defense of Political Prisoners.

New York City.

$10,000 Spent In Scottsboro Case, More Is Needed

Journal and Guide

3-19-32

NEW YORK—More than $10,000 has been spent by the International Labor Defense in its battle to save the Scottsboro boys from death, according to an audited statement just issued. From April 'till December 31, 1931, total I. L. D. expenditures on the case were $9,935.59.

This does not include the heavy cost of sending five lawyers to Montgomery, Ala., to argue the appeal before the Alabama Supreme Court on January 21 and 22, 1932, the organization stated.

Norfolk, Va.

Contributions from I. L. D. branches, affiliated organizations, and individuals amounted to $6,681.71, according to George Primoff, certified accountant of New York. The National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners, comprising such men as Theodore Dreiser and Sherwood Anderson, white, novelists, and other nationally known figures, endorsed the I. L. D. campaign to free the boys and contributed $2,879.56.

Total income was $8,800.49, leaving a deficit of $1,135.10 which was advanced by the national office of the I. L. D.

I. L. D. officials point out that the heaviest expenses must yet be faced. Decision of the Supreme Court will throw the case either back to the lower courts for a new trial or to the Supreme Court of the United States for a new appeal.

Those interested in saving the boys should contribute to the Scottsboro Defense Fund, Room 430, 80 East 11th Street. New York City.

REHEARING IS SOUGHT IN SCOTTSBORO CASE

MONTGOMERY, Ala., March 25. (AP)—Applications for a rehearing before the Alabama supreme court of the appeals in behalf of seven negroes sentenced to death for an attack on two young white girls near Paint Rock, Ala., a year ago, were filed today by George W. Chamlee, of Chattanooga, chief counsel for the condemned youths.

3-26-32

The supreme court in a 6-to-1 decision, yesterday confirmed the judgment of the lower court and set May 13, as date of execution for the negroes. One of the eight negroes convicted in Jackson circuit court last April was granted a new trial and his case remanded on his claim that he was only 15 at the time of the trial and therefore the court had no jurisdiction.

Decatur, Ga.

DOOMED NEGROES DENIED REHEARING

Telegraph & News

Alabama Supreme Court Overrules Plea Filed in Scotsboro Assault Case

Macon, Ga.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., April 9 (—) Another legal step to prevent the execution of seven young Negroes for an attack on two white girls near Scottsboro, Ala., last spring, failed today as the Alabama Supreme court denied an application for a rehearing of its previous decision affirming the sentences.

The action of the court today cleared the way for issuance of the death warrants bearing Friday, May 13, as the date of execution.

Only an appeal to the United States Supreme court or executive clemency now remains for the attorneys employed by the International Labor Defense of New York as a means of forestalling the executions.

The court today gave its decision in one word—"Overruled," written beside the application which was filed by George W. Chamlee, of Chattanooga, chief counsel for the Negroes, on March 25, the day after the supreme court in a 6-to-1 decision had affirmed the death sentences for the seven Negroes.

4-10-32

In that decision, the court reversed the death sentence of Eugene Williams, 15, holding that because of his age he was a juvenile and the Jackson county circuit court was without jurisdiction in his case.

Another Appeal Likely

Mr. Chamlee when he filed the applications for a rehearing, said if the Alabama Supreme court denied it, counsel for the Negroes would immediately take steps to bring the case before the United States Supreme court.

The Negroes, Ozie Powell, 17, and Charlie Weems, 21, of Atlanta; Andy Wright, 17, and Heywood Patterson, 17, of Chattanooga; Clarence Norris, 18, and Willie Robertson, 17, of Columbus, Ga., and Olen Montgomery, 17, of Monroe, Ga., were arrested at Paint Rock, Ala., March 25, 1931, with Williams, whose sentence was reversed, and Roy Wright, 14, whose case resulted in a mistrial.

The two girls testified in the trials that the Negroes attacked them aboard a gondola car on a freight train after throwing six of their seven white companions from the train and knocking the seventh unconscious.

The girls said they were hoboing their way home to Huntsville, Ala., after an unsuccessful search for work in Chattanooga.

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the Disarmament Conference in Geneva? Throughout this whole episode the President has again demonstrated his unfitness to guide the nation in this perilous hour.

Nation

THE ALABAMA SUPREME COURT, by a vote of six to one, has upheld the conviction of seven of the eight Scottsboro Negroes for rape, and the date of execution has been fixed as May 13. The eighth boy, Eugene Williams, since he was less than sixteen years old at the time of the alleged crime, will be remanded for a new trial. A motion for an appeal to the United States Supreme Court will at once be filed, and it is in this court that the real test of the case—in which the precedent of the Arkansas riot cases will figure—will come. Meanwhile the International Labor Defense, whose attorneys conducted the last appeal has dutifully made the usual protestant gestures. A telegram to Governor Miller declares: "Millions of workers throughout world enraged at State Supreme Court confirmation of death verdicts against Scottsboro boys." And the following protest was wired to Chief Justice John Anderson of the Alabama Supreme Court:

4-6-32

Vol. 134, No. 3483

New York, N.Y.

> Your confirmation of death verdicts against innocent Scottsboro boys is blow against working class, especially poor Negroes in South. Workers throughout world protest this upholding of legal lynching and obvious frame-ups. . . . By all our resources of mass-organization appeal to public and legal measures we pledge to fight this terror which your decision will aid.

Since Justice Anderson's was the one dissenting vote in the decision, this particular gesture seems just a bit ungrateful. But one can be encouraged to remember that the best test of the case is yet to be had, and that the Supreme Court of

Lynchings-1932
6
Legal Punishment for Rape

Alabama

3689

SHOW THAT SCOTTSBORO TRIAL WAS DOMINATED BY BOSSES' LYNCH LAW

Daily Worker
10-11-32
New York, N.Y.

International Labor Defense Attorney Argues Before U. S. Supreme Court

Prosecutor Uses N.A.C.C.P. 'Attorney Roddy's Treachery as His Best Argument

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct., 10.—The Supreme Court, with a squad o police in the room and cops swinging clubs in the corridors began to review the appeal of the International Labor Defense for a reversal of th conviction and death sentence on the Scottsboro boys. The police had bee here all last night and today.

Walter H. Pollak, I. L. D. attorney, representing the defendants drew a dramatic picture of the frame up, and contended: "that in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment of the U. S. constitution they had been denied a fair trial, denied proper counsel, no Negroes allowed on the jury.". He told how a group of white toughs, beaten in a fight with Negroes on the freight train, had wired ahead for police action. Only after the nine Scottsboro boys were taken off the train, and the white prostitutes discovered in another car, did the frame up charge of rape develop.

Lynch Trial

Pollak showed how, by admission of the state itself, there was an atmosphere of violence, the white landlord interests in Scottsboro being worked up to the lynching point, and "under these circumstances no fair trial could have been expected nor would the jury dare to acquit."

State Uses Roddy Sabotage

Thomas E. Knight, attorney general of the State of Alabama argued for death to the Negro children. His main legal point was that objections by the defense counsel, should have been made at the same time of the trial to anything the defense thought unfair. He entirely disregarded the fact that Attorney Roddy, hired by the National Association for Advancement of Colored People, was the boys' only defense lawyer at the time, and was against them and sabotaged their case.

Mother Mooney At Hearing

William L. Patterson and Mother Mooney were in Washington, Mrs. Mooney was in the court room. Patterson was present, representing the I. L. D., of which he has just been elected National Secretary. Many of the spectators in the court room were Negroes.

Crowd Favorable To Defense

The court room was jammed, and the hallways in the building were crowded with spectators, the majority of them Negroes. Some were allowed into the room, but most were kept out. The crowd was sympathetic to the defense, as proved by the fact that it came primarily to hear Pollak's speech, and left afterwards.

The case lasted from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Decision will come some time later. The character of the decision will be determined by the continuation of the mass protest movement demanding the unconditional freedom of the Scottsboro Boys.

List of Attorneys

Present representing the defense though Pollak made the main argument, were, besides Patterson; Attorneys:

George W. Chamlee of Tennessee; Joe Brodsky, of New York; Irving Schwab, of New York; Allen Taub of New York; Ely Schwartsbard, of New York; Bernard Ades, of Baltimore and Samuel Levine of Washington.

Demonstration at Scottsboro Hearing Fails to Materialize

Afro-American

Bernard Ades, William L. Patterson and Others at Hearing for Seven Boys.

WASHINGTON — A reported Communist demonstration "at or near the Capitol" failed to take place Monday when the Supreme Court met at noon to begin the session during which oral arguments were made in the Scottsboro cases.

10-15-32

The plaza in front of the Capitol had been cleared of automobiles, and an extra police guard provided to maintain order. The entire Capitol police force, including reserves, was on duty. This force was augmented by 25 reserves from the Metropolitan police force under Inspector Albert J. Headley.

Baltimore, Md.

Pecautionary

The police had no definite information that a demonstration had been planned, but the extra police guard had been put on duty as a precautionary measure.

Long before the doors of the Supreme Court were opened to the public a queue had formed. The majority in line were sympathizers with the Scottsboro defendants. Many of them were colored.

Mrs. Mary Mooney, mother of the California labor leader now in jail there in connection with the San Francisco Preparedness Day bomb explosion, joined the line. She was given a seat in the chamber. Mrs. Mooney is 84 years old.

"I am interestsed in seeing that every mother's son gets justice," she said in explanation of her intrest in the case. "I know what injustice means to them."

William Patterson, national secretary of the International Labor Defense which came to the aid of the seven convicted youths, also joined the line. Other representatives of the International Labor Defense who attended the hearing included Bernard Ades, a Baltimore attorney; Irving Schwab, also an attorney, and his wife, Mrs. Bessie Schwab. They posed for news photographers with Mrs. Mooney.

Mrs. Montgomery

The mother of Olin Montgomery, one of the seven youths under sentence of death for an alleged assault on two white girls near Scottsboro, Ala., also attended the hearing.

The case has been the subject of international agitation. Following the conviction of the seven youths, the American Civil Liberties Union and the International Labor Defense were instrumental in bringing about the appeal which has stayed the execution of the seven boys.

The hearing on the appeal was set last May when the Supreme Court agreed to review the case. This action served to stay the execution of the 7 youths who were to have died June 24 last.

A number of decisions were announced before the oral arguments were begun in the Scottsboro cases.

NEW YORK TIMES

OCT 11 1932

GUARDED HIGH COURT HEARS NEGRO PLEAS

Counsel for Seven Condemned at Scottsboro Pleads Mob Rule and Unfair Trial.

ALABAMA DENIAL ENTERED

Supreme Bench Takes Up Lake Diversion Issue and Bars Review of Elk Hills Oil Case.

FINDINGS ON GASOLINE TAX

Tennessee Upheld in Levy on Fue of Airline, but Not on That of Railroad Not Selling It.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10.—Althoug officials at the Capitol had mad elaborate preparations against a Communist demonstration, there wa none as the Supreme Court this af ternoon heard arguments in th Scottsboro cases involving the live of seven Negroes accused of assaulting two white girls.

The plaza facing the Capitol ha been cleared and extra policemen an detectives moved through the ground and the building.

In the crowded courtroom was Mrs Mary Mooney, mother of the imprisoned California labor leader, who said she was interested in seeing that other mothers' sons get justice. Several Alabama members of Congress were present and many Negroes.

Before the Scottsboro cases were reached, the court disposed of about 180 cases of the 370 docketed Scores of petitions for review were denied, only about thirty-five being granted.

Opposing Scottsboro Pleas.

The court took the Scottsboro cases under advisement after it had heard Walter H. Pollak, a New York lawyer associated with the International Labor Defense, argue that a fair trial had been denied to the defendants and Attorney General Thomas E. Knight Jr. of Alabama, declare that their constitutional rights had been adequately protected.

Mob domination, denial of the right to be represented by counsel, exclusion of Negroes from the trial jury and failure to question jurors as to race prejudice were alleged by Mr. Pollak as factors which brought about an unfair trial for the Negroes. He held that threats of mob violence required calling out the National Guard.

Mr. Knight argued that the Alabama Supreme Court had reviewed the cases and failed to find any reasons for interferring with the death sentences. Though admitting public "curiosity" in the case, he denied that public sentiment required summoning the National Guard, and stated that the Sheriff had requested the troops to prevent any outbreak by a mob.

He contended that the absence of Negroes on the jury was not significant and that it did not prove the absence of names of Negroes from the drawing-box. Insisting that all due processes of law had been observed, he said that he had "no apologies to make for the severity" of the jury's verdict.

Among orders issued by the court was a direction to the Illinois and the Chicago Sanitary District to make a report Nov. 7 showing why they have "not taken appropriate steps to effect compliance with the requirements" of the court's decree of April 2, 1930, to cease diverting water from the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Watershed. The court fixed Nov. 14 for oral arguments.

Last week, Gilbert Bettman, Attorney General of Ohio, and the Attorneys General of Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota, asked the court to enforce its decree and to appoint an officer to carry out the mandate. They charged that, although the court had ordered the diversion virtually stopped by 1938, very little progress had been made.

Mr. Bettman said that at the rate of present annual expenditures, it would take thirty-seven years, and at the rate of expenditures for the last six months, 320 years.

REDS PROTEST IN PARIS.

Seven Groups Petition Embassy on Scottsboro Case.

By Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PARIS, Oct. 10.—Fifteen delegations from affiliated French branches of the Communist International visited the American Embassy today between 10 A. M. and 5 P. M., presenting petitions for the release of the Negroes involved in the Scottsboro (Ala.) case. The protests were timed for the day on which the Supreme Court was reviewing the case.

Each delegation was composed of four or five persons. Some Negroes and a few women were among them. There were no demonstrations and the only threat of violence came from the chief delegates of the Red Youth Association, who said that if the Negroes were not released prominent Americans in Paris would be assaulted and bombs would be placed in buildings housing Americans here.

The embassy officials told the delegations that such petitions could not be forwarded to Washington and, since they were French citizens, their proper means of protest would be through the French Embassy at Washington.

The French police maintained a cordon around the embassy.

BERLIN, Oct. 10 (AP).—Ada Wright, mother of two of the seven Negroes under sentence of death at Scottsboro, Ala., was taken to a hospital today for a surgical operation.

J. Louis Engdahl, secretary of the American section of the International Red Aid, who has accompanied her on a tour of Europe in an effort to consolidate sentiment in favor of the Negroes, made arrangements for the operation.

By LOUIS R. LAUTIER

(Special to The Courier)

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13—The fate of seven youths rests with the United States Supreme Court.

Their appeal from conviction and sentence of death was argued in that tribunal Monday.

In the light of the facts, the circumstances of the youths, the atmosphere at the place of their conviction as reflected in the press, in the crowds and in the display of military force, and the influence of these things upon the juries, the Supreme Court is asked to decide whether their trial was fair, their right to counsel effective, and justice free from discrimination by reason of race.

Courier

10-13-31

Pittsburgh, Pa.

What the Supreme Court Heard

The case came to the Supreme Court on a writ of certiorari granted May 31 last. It grew out of the conviction of nine youths at Scottsboro, Alabama, for the alleged rape of Victoria Price and Ruby Bates, two white women.

The youths in whose behalf a new trial is sought are Ozie Powell, Willie Roberson, Andy Wright, Olen Montgomery, Haywood Patterson, Charlie Weems and Clarence Norris. Two other boys were indicted with them. The Alabama Supreme Court reversed the conviction of one of them, a boy named Williams, because he was under 16 years of age. Roy Wright, who was 14 years of age, was not brought to trial with the others and was not convicted.

Two sets of boys, the nine colored boys and seven white boys, were on a freight train March 25, 1931, going south from Chattanooga into Alabama. The two young white women were also on the train. All of them were in a "gondola" or open car.

"Get Every Negro Off—"

The two sets of boys began fighting. The white boys, with the exception of one named Gilley, were thrown off the train. A telegram was sent to "get every Negro off of the train." The message said nothing about any molestation of the girls, but did report the fight between the two sets of boys.

At the way station of Paint Rock, southwest of Scottsboro, a sheriff's posse met the train and seized those who were still on it. The notion got abroad that some injury had been done the girls. The girls and the prisoners were taken at once to Scottsboro. Mrs. Price and Miss Bates were examined by physicians within one or two hours of the alleged occurrence.

At Scottsboro the excitement became intense. The sheriff asked the governor to call out the National Guard. At 9 o'clock in the evening the adjutant general, acting by the governor's order, telephoned from Montgomery to Major Starnes at Guntersville to take hold of the situation with his men. Major Starnes with other officers and three companies arrived at Scottsboro within three hours after the call.

On Four Indictments

On the day after the alleged crime Circuit Judge Hawkins summoned the grand jury and called a special session of the Circuit Court. All defendants were indicted March 31. They were brought to trial only for an alleged rape on Victoria Price effected in concert. Four indictments, however, were returned against each defendant: a collective indictment in the Price case, a similar collective indictment in the Bates case, and two individual indictments in the cases respectively of the two women.

The defendants were arraigned on the same day they were indicted, but the minutes show no reference to an appointment of counsel. The court set April 6 as the date of trial for all the cases.

None of the defendants had up to the time of their trial employed counsel. The flavor of the proceedings is given in the brief as follows:

"There had evidently been some notion that a Mr. Roddy of Chattanooga might appear for the boys. The court did not wish to 'impose' upon local counsel. Mr. Roddy, however, declared, 'I won't appear as counsel,' but 'I would like to appear along with counsel that your honor has indicated you would appoint.' A member of the local bar, Mr. Moody, spoke up and said, 'Of course if your honor purposes to appoint us, I am willing to go on with it.'

Details of the Trial

"Mr. Roddy explained, 'They have not given me an opportunity to prepare the case and I am not familiar with the procedure in *Alabama*, but I merely came down here as a friend of people who are interested. I think the boys would be better off if I step entirely out of the case.' Mr. Roddy, therefore, said, 'I would like for your honor to go ahead and appoint counsel.'

"The court, however, still hesitated, saying, 'If Mr. Roddy will appear, I wouldn't of course, I would not appoint anybody.' Mr. Roddy declared, 'If there is anything I can do to be of help to them, I will be glad to do it; I am interested to that extent.' Mr. Moody said, 'I am willing to go ahead and help Mr. Roddy in anything I can do about it, under the circumstances.' The court rule, All right, all the lawyers that will.'"

Mr. Roddy asked for a change of venue. The court overruled this motion and proceeded to trial. The trial of Weems and Norris was commenced on April 6 and ended on the 7th. The trial of Patterson was commenced on the 7th and ended on the 8th. The trial of Powell and his four co-defendants was commenced and concluded on the 8th.

The juries were composed exclusively of white persons. A large number of colored land-owners were qualified for jury service, but not one was selected for the entire trial. The exclusion was "by reason of a custom of long standing."

The record does not show what questions were asked jurors before they were accepted for service. It does, however, show that they were not asked whether they entertained a prejudice against colored persons.

No Witnesses Called

The only witnesses the defense called in any of the cases were the other boys under indictment for the same offense. The records show no opening address for any defendant and no closing address. The judge's charges were stereotyped and virtually identical in the three cases. He told the first jury: "Let me have your attention for a few moments and then you will have this case."

In all the cases and as to all the defendants the juries brought in verdicts of guilty. There is a shade of disagreement over the facts whether at the time the Weems jury reported the hosiery mill band paraded and played such tunes as "Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here" and "There'll Be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight." The State contends that the hosiery mill band played later in the afternoon.

Upon all the defendants the juries imposed the death penalty. All the defendants were sentenced April 9. Execution in all cases was set for July 10. An appeal to the Alabama Supreme Court was taken on the same day sentences were imposed and the sentences were suspended pending disposition of the appeal.

Chamlee Retained

In the course of the next few weeks the defendants' families retained for the boys George W. Chamlee of Chattanooga. After he came into the case he filed new motions for new trials and in these he asserted the claim of constitutional right.

The prosecution submitted various affidavits in opposition to the motions for new trial. These affidavits were primarily concerned with the girls' character—whether or not they had committed acts of prostitution with colored men, as charged in the defendants' motions. When the cases reached the Alabama Supreme Court it ruled that because the boys denied all intercourse with the white women there was no issue of consent on the part of the women and the whole question of their having a reputation for unchastity with Negroes was immaterial.

Chief Justice Dissents

The motions for new trial were denied June 22, 1931. The majority of the Alabama Supreme Court in all the cases affirmed the convictions. Chief Justice Anderson in all the cases dissented.

The question presented to the Supreme Court was not whether the defendants were innocent or guilty. It was solely whether their constitutional rights have been preserved.

The argument in behalf of the defendants may be summarized as follows:

"There was no fair, impartial and deliberate trial and there was therefore denied of due process. The decision of the State Court is erroneous. A trial in circumstances of mob domination—in circumstances that preclude deliberation—is not due process of law. Conviction, confinement and death penalty after a trial so conducted constitute deprivation of liberty and life contrary to the Constitution of the United States.

"Due process of law includes the right to counsel and its accustomed incidents of consultation with counsel and opportunity for preparation for trial and for the presentation of a proper defense at trial. This right was in all effective sense denied.

"The 'appointment' of March 31 was void. The law allows the designation of not more than two. All the lawyers were to 'defend' all the boys. 'The court did not name or designate particular counsel, but appointed the entire Scottsboro bar thus extending and enlarging the responsibility and, in a sense, enabling each one to rely upon others' (quoting Chief Justice Anderson of the Alabama Supreme Court). Such a designation would not be, within the meaning of the due process clause of the Constitution of the United States, valid even if it were permitted—as in fact it was prohibited—by local statute.

"Defendants' utter helplessness continued right down to April 6th. On that day they did not know who would be their counsel and they had been in jail ever since they were arrested March 25, 1931, and had no opportunity to employ counsel and no money with which to pay them, and had no chance to confer with their parents, kinfolk or friends, and had no chance to procure witnesses.

"Not only was the right to counsel denied, but the denial deprive the accused of all real defense When appointment is made so late as to make impossible inquiry into the facts of the case—so late as to preclude preparation—then indeed the benefit of counsel is promised but the service rendered ineffective.

"The motion for change of the place of trial was perfunctory there was no argument in [illegible] a motion for change of the trial was the most importa no lawyers charged on the ver

of trial with responsibility for the cases—the most obvious of all motions, but it was not made; there was no demand for severances, although the issue of identification was cardinal and the right of the defense to separate trials absolute; there was no opposition to the severances the prosecution requested; there could be no legitimate inquiry into the character of the jurors and there were no challenges; there was no opening address for any defendant; there are a handful of exceptions to rulings on evidence in the first case, four in the second, in the third with five defendants two; in no case did counsel for the defense sum up for any client, nor did they demand in return for the waiver of a right to fundamental a corresponding waiver by the prosecution; in no case did the defense submit a single instruction to the jury; in none did it take a single exception to the charge.

"The trial of petitioners before juries from which qualified members of their own race were—because of their race—systematically excluded and their conviction by such juries, was a denial of the equal protection of the laws. Objection to the exclusion was—allowances being made for the circumstances—seasonably taken.

Lynchings-1932

Alabama

3690

Legal Punishment for Rape.

SUPREME COURT HALTS EXECUTION OF SEVEN BOYS

Journal and Guide

Grants Review Plea In Scottsboro, Ala. Case

6-17-32

WASHINGTON, D. C.— Before recessing for the summer, the United States Supreme Court Tuesday granted petitions for writs of certiorari in the so-called Scottsboro Case, directing the Supreme Court of the State of Alabama to certify and send to it the record of the trial and conviction of seven youths on a charge of raping two white women.

Norfolk, Va.

The seven youths, Ozie Powell Willie Roberson, Andy Wright, Olen Montgomery, Haywood Patterson Charlie Weems, Clarence Norris—ignorant and illiterate—are in the state prison at Montgomery, Alabama, where they were to be hanged on June 24.

The action of the Supreme Court stays their execution until it has had an opportunity to review their convictions.

Defense Claims

The applications for writs of certiorari were based on the ground that their conviction and sentence to death for the crime of rape constituted in the circumstances of the case a deprivation of liberty and life, without due process of law and a denial of the equal protection of the laws guaranteed them by the Fourteenth Amendment of the Federal Constitution and a violation of their rights under this amendment.

The petitions for review were filed by Walter H. Pollak, their attorney, who was retained by the International Labor Defense.

At the time of their trial and conviction, the defendants were of immature years, and ignorant or illiterate. All were non-residents of the county in which they were tried and of the State of Alabama.

Held Under Military Guard

They were confined in prison and under military guard from the day of the occurrence which caused their prosecution until after their trial [illegible] weeks later. They were without opportunity to communicate with their parents or with friends [illegible]. They were without opportunity to employ counsel and, in fact, employed none.

The record shows that on the day all cases were set for trial, a lawyer in the courtroom, who had not prepared the cases in any way, professed a willingness to aid in their defense. The court, without consultation with the defendants, accepted the offer and made no appointment of his own.

The petitions for certiorari assert that all of the defendants were tried on that day or within two days thereafter and their cases were not and could not be prepared and were not and could not be adequately presented.

Lynching Threats

The Supreme Court was informed that sensational and damaging articles appeared in the local white press, which both assumed and asserted the guilt of the defendants. Threatening crowds gathered the day of the arrests and were present in the immediate vicinity of the court throughout the trials.

The Governor of Alabama called out the National Guard, which remained on duty from the day of the occurrence to the conclusion of the trials. The military force guarding the court during the trials were equipped with machine guns and tear gas bombs. The judge of the court instructed the commander of the guard to search all persons coming into the courtroom or the courthouse grounds for arms.

The record also shows that the judge denied the defendants a change of venue. The crowds around the courthouse, in the courthouse and in the courtroom burst into applauding demonstration when verdict imposing the death penalty was returned.

All-White Juries

The juries which reported the successive verdicts were composed entirely of members of the white race. The petitions for writs of certiorari pointed out that there were many colored persons qualified by law for jury service in the county, but they were excluded from the juries pursuant to custom of long standing.

Jurors were not interrogated concerning the presence or absence of race prejudice and, according to the petitions, were in fact swayed by prejudice against the defendants so that they could not and did not weigh the evidence with calmness and deliberation.

The petition asserted that a fair and impartial trial was impossible at the time and place, and there was no fair and impartial trial. The right to counsel was denied. The defendants were victims of discrimination on account of race, it was asserted, and equal protection was withheld.

N. Y. EVENING POST

MAY 31 1932

HIGH COURT GIVES DOOMED 7 REVIEW

Will Examine Sentence of Scottsboro Defendants Next October

MEN WERE TO DIE IN JUNE

WASHINGTON, May 31 (AP).—The Supreme Court today decided to review the sentence of seven Negroes convicted of assaulting two white girls near Scottsboro, Ala. The Negroes were to have been executed on June 24.

The action of the highest court today probably will have the effect of postponing the executions.

The cases will be taken up by the Court after it meets next October. At that time counsel will be heard in oral arguments and the Court will decide whether the facts require the setting aside of the convictions. The Court set the cases for argument on October 10.

Capitol Guarded

A heavy police guard was thrown around the Capitol today as reports were received that Communists were planning a demonstration. Nothing happened, however.

The police detail, armed with tear guns and gas bombs was in position to break up any demonstration when President Hoover arrived to address the Senate.

The Communists, who were reported to have been concentrating here for several days, were said to be planning a protest in the Supreme Court against the execution of seven Negroes convicted of attacking two white girls in Alabama.

The police saw no sign of Communists, but decided to wait until after the President had left the Senate to return to the White House.

Case Stirred World Interest

Originating in the backwoods of northeast Alabama, the Scottsboro case developed into an issue almost comparable with the cases of Mooney or Sacco and Vanzetti. The International Labor Defense, a Communist organization, the National Association for the Advancement of the Colored Race and a numerically great group of other organizations throughout the country have watched its progress with interest and concern.

Certain facts seem undisputed in the flood of testimony, charge and countercharge, which led to the conviction of seven young Negroes of an attack upon two white girls, a crime punishable in Alabama by death.

On Wednesday, March 25, 1931, a group of Negroes, about a dozen or so, got in a fight with about half a dozen white men who with two white girls were riding on a freight train at Stevenson, in Jackson County. The Negroes showed weapons, and all but one of the white boys leaped from the train.

Fifty miles further on, at Paint Rock, eight Negroes were captured by a posse which had hastily gathered when some of the white men turned up at Stevenson and reported the fight.

The two white girls on the train had been attacked. Both came from the mill district near Huntsville. One, twenty-one, had married twice. The other, seventeen, was unmarried.

Taken to the county jail at Scottsboro, the Negroes were hemmed in by a crowd of perhaps 300. The sheriff tried to get them to a safer place, but the crowd had cut the light wires on his car. At 9 in the evening the National Guard appeared. The crowd, cold in the night air, had gone home, and the prisoners were transferred to Gardiner.

Trials Held Promptly

Indictments followed with celerity, and twelve days after the alleged assault, trials were under way. Four trials were held, the cases being grouped, and seven of the Negroes were sentenced to death. Only in the case of the eighth, a fourteen year old boy, did a jury fail to agree.

Protests against the convictions have centered on the two circumstances: the speed of the trials combined with the fact that only one attorney seemed to have busied himself in the defense, and the general atmosphere of the vicinity while the trials were in progress.

The currency given the story that eight penniless Negroes, far from their homes, were railroaded through court in a sublimated legal lynching, brought protests from all parts of the United States, as well as from organizations and individuals in Germany, England, France, Switzerland, Canada, Cuba and the South American Republics. Among the signers of protests have been Albert Einstein, Thomas Mann, Alfonso Goldschmidt and Kaethe Kollwitz.

NEGROES' APPEAL

Temporary Reprieve Thought Probable

Guardian Weekly

(From our New York Correspondent.)

5-27-32

Manchester England

The United States Supreme Court is expected to decide on May 31 whether the seven negro boys involved in the Scottsboro case must die on June 24. If the court decides to accept jurisdiction the negroes will be reprieved until next autumn, when a new trial will take place. It is considered highly probable that the court will take this action

The boys were condemned on a charge of criminal assault after a trial which was a mockery of justice.

GERMANY HEARS MOTHER OF TWO VICTIMS OF SCOTTSBORO CASE

Chicago Defender

5/28/32

BERLIN, Germany, May 27.—A giant mass meeting in Stuttgart, Germany wound up the first week of the European tour of Mrs. Ada Wright of Chattanooga, mother of Roy and Andy, two of the nine Scottsboro boys. Together with J. Louis Engdahl, secretary of the International Labor Defense, Mrs. Wright is touring Europe under the auspices of the German Red Aid, sister organization to the I. L. D. in America.

The German workers have greeted her with the greatest enthusiasm and are pledging themselves to the world-wide fight to free the Scottsboro boys and to smash all forms of oppression.

Visits Other Cities

Other meetings at which Mrs. Wright told the German workers the story of the Scottsboro frame-up and appealed for their support were held at Hamburg, Darmstadt and Auesachsen. Auesachsen is in the center of the highland automoile industry.

After a great mass meeting had assembled in Berlin the chief of police forbade Mrs. Wright to appear or to send any message. The workers present denounced this move and voted their complete solidarity with the nine framed boys.

The murder of a worker by police at a Scottsboro demonstration in Chemnitz has only made the workers of Germany more determined to help fight the Scottsboro case to a finish.

Supreme Court To Review Case of Scottsboro Negroes

Constitution

6-1-32

WASHINGTON, May 31.—(AP)—Protected by police against a rumored communist demonstration, the supreme court today agreed to review the conviction and death sentence of seven negroes accused of assaulting two white girls near Scottsboro, Ala.

Word that reds were mobilizing for a demonstration in favor of the Alabama negroes sent to the capitol details of police armed with tear gas bombs and riot guns. No radicals appeared, however.

Atlanta Ga.

Today's session ended the court's term. Five decisions were rendered, 35 reviews refused and 16 granted, disposing of all business before the tribunal for action.

The negroes had been sentenced to die June 24. The court's granting of a review had the effect of giving them a reprieve until next fall. The court will not meet again until October and Oral argument on the case will be heard October 10.

Walter H. Pollak, a New York lawyer, presented the cases of the negroes to the court. He contended they had not been given trials guaranteed by the constitution, insisting their arrests were followed by threats of mob violence, requesting the calling out of the state national guard.

With the public mind inflamed against them, the trial judge had improperly refused, he asserted, to permit them to be tried in another county, had forced them to trial without proper preparation of their cases by counsel, and had denied them the right to question jurors on whether they entertained racial prejudice.

He also claimed negroes had been excluded from the jury, and that his clients were the victims of mob justice.

Constitution

Attorney-General Knights, of Alabama, sought to prevent a review, emphasizing that the Alabama supreme court had reviewed the cases, and had failed to find any grounds for interfering with the death penalties which had been imposed.

6-1-32

He denied that public sentiment required the calling out of the state national guard, stating the county sheriff had asked for them to prevent any mob outbreak.

Atlanta Ga.

The fact no negroes were on the jury was not significant, the attorney-general argued, and did not prove that the names of the negroes were not in the box from which the jury was drawn. He insisted that all due processes of law had been observed at the trial.

Ruling Expected On Scottsboro Negroes Today

Advertiser

5-31-32

Montgomery

Whether the U. S. Supreme Court will or will not review the cases of the seven negroes under sentence to die in the electric chair at Kilby Prison on June 24 for criminally assaulting two white girls near Scottsboro more than a year ago, probably will be known some time today. The nation's highest tribunal is expected to render a decision on the question some time during the forenoon, it was learned yesterday.

The petition for certiorari seeking a reviewal, which was filed by counsel for the condemned negroes, was finally submitted last Monday in Washington. When the matter came before the Supreme Court Monday Atty. Gen. Knight offered a motion that the petition for certiorari be formally submitted at that time, which was the last day upon which such submissions could be made prior to the recessing of the court until October.

In making this motion, the Attorney General also asked that he be granted three days in which to prepare and file a brief in the cases. Both the motion and the request were granted, and the brief was filed well within the time limit specified. In the preparation of the brief and other matters pertaining to the State's side of the cases, Atty. Gen. Knight was aided by Asst. Atty. Gen. T. S. Lawson, who accompanied him.

Mr. Knight and Mr. Lawson returned from Washington yesterday morning

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Scottsboro Mother

Daily Worker

Mrs. Ada Wright, mother of two of the framed Negro boys facing death in Scottsboro, now touring Europe to rouse protest against their execution. She sent a cablegram of greetings to the National Convention of the Communist election campaign

5-31-32

New York

Scottsboro Mother Greets Convention

Daily Worker 5-30-32

Mrs. Wright Cables from Austria of European Workers' Denunciation of Lynch Verdict

New York

From Austria comes the following greeting from Mrs. Ada Wright to the National Nominating Convention of the Communist Party, opening today in Chicago. Mrs. Wright, who is the mother of two of the nine innocent Scottsboro boys facing electrocution in Alabama, is touring Europe in connection with the world-wide mass fight against the lynch verdicts.

"To the National Nominating Convention,

"Communist Party,

"Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.

"Greetings. Tremendous, militant response of German workers for the struggle against lynch justice in the United States should spur American workers to greater efforts.

"I greet the National Nominating Convention of the Communist Party as marking an intensification of the campaign for the liberation of the Scottsboro boys facing electrocution on June 24, of Tom Mooney enduring life imprisonment, and of all class war prisoners.

"The socialists and the fascists are the most active enemies in attacking the Scottsboro defense campaign here in Germany.

"Great demonstrations, mass meetings, already held in Altona, Hamburg, Dortmund, Dusseldorf, Solingen, Darmstadt, Halle, Berlin, Aus, with plans for Suttgart and Hanover. We are carrying campaign into Denmark, Czecho-Slovakia, Austria, Switzerland, France and England. Forward for great international solidarity of the world's working class! Labor's protest alone can free the Scottsboro boys and all the class war prisoners!

(Signed) "ADA WRIGHT."

L. Wright, Scottsboro Boys' Sister, On a Tour

Daily Worker

Lucille Wright eleven year old sister of two of the nine Scottsboro boys, will tour the Philadelphia district as follows:

5-31-32

June 1st—Trenton
June 2nd—Philadelphia
June 3rd—Chester
June 4th—Baltimore
June 5th —Washington

New York, N.Y.

In Philadelphia over forty workers are facing jail terms, Willie Brown faces the electric chair. In Maryland farmhand, faces death at the legal lynching hands of the ruling class on a frame-up charge.

5-31-32

In Washington, many workers face jail terms because of their activity in the anti-imperialist war demonstrations. Roth and Adams of Chester are now serving long jail terms for sedition."

The Lucille Wright meetings are under the auspices of the Youth Committee of the International Labor Defense.

On June 1st in Philadelphia every International Labor Defense Branch will hold open air meetings to popularize the open air demonstration to be held the next day, June 2nd, 7 p. m. at 13th and Thompson Sts. The indoor mass meeting will be held also on June 2nd, 8:30 p. m. at 1144 North 4th Street.

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment for Rape

Alabama

3691

AMERICAN INTELLECTUALS ON THE SCOTTSBORO LYNCH VERDICTS

Daily Worker 4-23-32

New York N.Y.

STATEMENTS issued yesterday, a number of American intellectuals vigorously condemned the attempt of the Alabama ruling class to legally murder the nine innocent Scottsboro Negro boys. A statement by Malcolm Cowley, one of the editors of the New Republic, declares of the Scottsboro lynch verdicts:

"This is class justice at its cruellest and bloodiest."

Theodore Dreiser, most outstanding American novelist, declared:

"The action of the Supreme Court of the State of Alabama in confirming the decision of guilt and, therefore, the death sentence, against seven of the eight young Negro boys in the Scottsboro case is one which can scarcely be paralleled. It puts the stamp of approval upon an act of barbarity.

"The conditions of the original trial are well known: It was held during county horse-swapping week, and a mob of ten thousand people surrounded the overflowing court house. Armed militia, sent by the State, were there in anticipation of trouble, and trouble, in such circumstances means only one thing—attempted lynching if the boys were acquitted. There was a brass band celebration of 'victory' when the death sentences were returned. In the appeal the defense attorneys contended that the boys have been denied their rights in 'due process of law' because 'mob hysteria intimidated the judge, the jury and the defense counsel.'

"Under such circumstances, it seems impossible that any serious consideration of proofs of their innocence could have been given, yet it was not impossible to expect such consideration in an appeal to a higher and, supposedly, calmer court. But has this expectation been fulfilled? No. Instead the decision which was really first reached by a threatening mob has been confirmed, and the State of Alabama and its courts, low and high, have confirmed as well, and to the abhorrence of every decent man and woman, that their hysterical and insane hatred of the Negro is innate in their minds, and that the standards of a bestial mob are their own."

A statement by Alfred Kreymborg, poet and novelist, declares, in part:

"The decision of the Alabama Supreme Court in the Scottsboro case once more bares the tragic difference between the workers, black and white, who are underpaid, undernourished, overworked, and kept in a state of warfare with one another to split their strength, and the owners, who own the land industry, and to all appearances sway the law, the courts and the press."

Josephine Herbst, novelist, made the following statement in support of the mass fight to free the boys against the class justice of the bosses' courts:

"We must fight the Scottsboro case to the Supreme Court over the prejudiced Alabama Court. The protests of the entire world will arise against this infamous decision denying to these children who are workers and supposedly freedmen all semblance of justice."

Waldo Frank, novelist, denounced the lynch verdicts in a statement reading, in part:

"Sacco and Vanzetti in Massachusetts, Mooney in California, the miners in Kentucky, and now the Scottsboro boys in Alabama, give conviction to the growing fear that throughout our country justice is impotent against class hatred."

Lewis Mumford, writer and essayist and a professor at Columbia University, issued the following statement:

"The legal slaughter of the seven Negro boys in the Scottsboro case is as great a disgrace as the slightly more open violence of a lynching bee. Race prejudice and raw class vindictiveness have conspired in this decision to make a travesty of justice. Nothing more contrary to elementary social decency has occurred since the execution of Sacco and Vanzetti.

"If anything destroys respect for the existing institutions the complete miscarriage of justice, as in the Scottsboro case, does so. Those who wish to maintain the present economic and social order have the most serious cause to be concerned over such tactics as prosecutor, jury and the courts have displayed in this affair; while those who, like myself, believe that our present institutions must be radically altered, are only further strengthened in their beliefs by this exhibition of class violence, insolently disguised as law and order."

A statement given out by Elmer Rice, playwright, declares, in part:

"I am shocked to learn that the conviction of seven of the Scottsboro boys has been upheld by the Alabama Supreme Court.

"Everything that I have read about the case convinces me that these boys were convicted upon the flimsiest sort of evidence and that the conduct of the trial was governed by racial, sectional and political considerations rather than by principles of justice."

These denunciations by leading American intellectuals of the Scottsboro lynch verdicts clearly show the growing influence of the world-wide mass fight, under the leadership of the proletariat, for the freedom of the Scottsboro boys.

Theodore Dreiser with Aunt Mollie Jackson, when the Dreiser Committee investigated conditions of miners in Kentucky.

SUPREME COURT TO REVIEW CASE

Courier 6-4-32

Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, June 2—The seven Alabama youths convicted in the famous Scottsboro case will not die June 24! This fact was revealed late Tuesday when the Supreme Court of the United States granted the petitions of the doomed youths and set the case for argument on Monday, October 10.

The pleas of the petitioners, Ozie Powell, Willie Roberson, Olen Montgomery, Andy Wright, Haywood Patterson, Charley Weems and Clarence Norris, were granted on the grounds that their convictions and the sentence of death for the crime of rape under the circumstances in this case, constituted a deprivation of liberty and rights without due process of law. The ruling also stated that equal protection under the laws was guaranteed by the Fourteenth amendment and that a violation of their rights under this amendment was evident in the courts of the State of Alabama.

The stay, coming on the eve of the adjournment of the high tribunal, with the lads facing execution on June 24, literally snatched the youths from the chair.

The Struggle for the Scottsboro Boys in Germany

Daily Worker 5-27-32

By J. LOUIS ENGDAHL.

DUSSELDORF, Germany (by mail).—The Catholic regime in Cologne, where the great Cologne Cathedral stands sentinel near the central railroad station as if to bar entrance to any who are unwelcome, joined the socialist regime in Altona-Hamburg in the effort to silence the appeal of the Scottsboro mother, Ada Wright. The meeting here was forbidden.

New York N.Y.

Three other meetings, however, were carried through here in the great machine building industrial center around Dusseldorf. But even here obstacles had to be overcome in the Lower Rhineland. The Socialist Center (Catholic) combination that rules in Dusseldorf, had refused the use of any municipal hall for the Scottsboro protest, and all the large halls are municipally owned.

Instead of taking a small hall the first meeting was held in the Germania Hall, of the suburb, Obarkassel, under close police surveillance. This meeting held on a Sunday, was marked by an unusually large attendance of children who took a keen interest in the detailed translation of everything said by the Scottsboro mother, Ada Wright. Throughout the Lower Rhineland the children have been writing letters to President Hoover, drawing up resolutions and petitions of their own. One of these letters read at the meeting was as follows:

Dear President Hoover:—In America everything is said to be so beautiful, as my uncle has very often told me, and as we have been taught in the schools, that there is much more freedom in your country than there is here in Germany.

Dear President, my father has read to me from the newspapers, that you are going to permit the Negro children to be put to death. That would not be good from you. What have these children done? The police here in Germany is very severe with us. But they do not put children to death. Let the poor Negro children live, because their fathers and mothers will shed many tears for them. We here in Germany would be glad to hear that you are for justice. If I should happen to come to America, then I shall visit you. Please write me if you have received my letter."

Some of the difficulties in carrying through mass meetings in Germany were revealed in Dusseldorf. Special permission, with a special stamp of the police department, had to be secured for the distribution of leaflets. Any distributor of leaflets who did not carry his permit liable to three months imprisonment. Placards, handbills and other publicity was not allowed to carry any slogans, not even such an appeal as "We Call Upon Workers to Come to the Meeting!" Instead only the name of the speaker and what he is to talk about. I was not allowed to speak because my name had not been reported to the police.

The Obarkassel meeting was presided over by Carl Jannack, secretary of the International Red Aid for the Lower Rhineland district with its 13,000 members.

We were the guests of the workers of Dusseldorf in the evening at an unusual performance given by the Workers' Singing Society in the State Theatre. There were 400 singers, men, women and children, who presented through song and declamation the struggles of the Communist propagandists.

SCOTTSB'RO CONVICTIONS TO BE REVIEWED MAY 31

Journal and Guide

If Writs Are Refused 7 Youths Will Be Executed June 24

5-28-32

Special to Journal and Guide

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Three petitions for review of the conviction of seven youths for alleged assaults on two white girls near Scottsboro, Alabama, will be passed on by the United States Supreme Court next Tuesday, May 31.

Norfolk, Va.

If the petitions for writs of certiorari are denied by the Supreme Court, the youths will be executed June 24. If the writs are granted, their execution will be stayed and their cases will be reviewed when the Supreme Court reconvenes next October.

The petition were filed Monday, May 23, in the cases of Ozie Powell, Haywood Patterson, Charlie Weems and Clarence Norris against the State of Alabama.

The petitions challenge the validity of the conviction of the seven youths on the grounds of race prejudice, inflamed public sentiment and failure to obtain a fair trial.

Journal and Guide

Thomas E. Knight, Jr., Attorney General of the State of Alabama, anticipating the attack on the validity of the death sentence for the seven youths, was present when the cases were filed. He was granted leave to file a brief before Friday setting forth the objections of the State of Alabama to a review of the convictions by the Supreme Court.

Attorney General Knight said the present stay of execution to allow the youths to appeal to the Supreme Court exhausted all possible stays by the State and would require their execution on June 24 unless the Supreme Court or one of its justices intervenes.

5-28-32

Police Watch Communists

The Supreme Court will recess for the summer after its session next Tuesday.

Norfolk Va.

For the second time within two weeks when the Court met last Monday extra policemen watched the doors after reports that Communists planned a demonstration, but the justices took their places with nothing to interrupt the calmness of the judicial atmosphere.

Even before the petitions for review of the convictions of the seven men had been filed, letters have been received from Communists in different countries urging the court to intervene in the Scottsboro case.

Seven Negroes In Death Hou Given Reprieve

Advertiser

6-1-32

Supreme Court To Review Scottsboro Case; Knight To Give State Argument

Montgomery, Ala.

Red Riot Rumored

High Court Also Refuses To Reconsider Capone Review Plea It Rejected

WASHINGTON, May 31.—(AP)—Protected by police against a rumored Communist demonstration, the Supreme Court today agreed to review the conviction and death sentence of seven negroes accused of assaulting two white girls near Scottsboro, Ala.

In addition, it firmly closed the doors of Atlanta Prison upon "Scarface Al" Capone by refusing to reconsider its previous refusal to review his case.

Word that Reds were mobilizing for a demonstration in favor of the Alabama negroes sent to the Capitol details of police armed with tear gas bombs and riot guns. No Radicals appeared, however.

Today's session ended the Court's term. Five decisions were rendered, 35 reviews refused, and 16 granted, disposing of all business before the tribunal for action.

The Alabama Supreme Court, after reviewing the conviction of the negroes and affirming the judgment of the trial at Scottsboro, set Friday, June 24 as the date of execution. They are now in Kilby Prison, at Montgomery, where they were placed to await execution.

The action of the Supreme Court in granting a review today, however, had the effect of giving the negroes a reprieve until next Fall. The Court will not meet again until October and oral argument on the case will be heard Oct. 10.

Walter H. Pollak, a New York lawyer presented the cases of the negroes to the court. He contended they had not been given trials guaranteed by the Constitution, insisting their arrests were followed by threats of mob violence, requesting the calling out of the State National Guard.

With the public mind inflamed against them, the trial judge had improperly refused, he asserted, to permit them to be tried in another county, had forced them to trial without proper preparation of their cases by counsel, and had denied them the right to question jurors on whether they entertained racial prejudice.

He also claimed negroes had been excluded from the jury, and that his clients were the victims of mob violence.

Atty. Gen. Knight, of Alabama, sought to prevent a review, emphasizing that the Alabama Supreme Court had reviewed the cases, and had failed to find any grounds for interfering with the death penalties which had been imposed.

He denied that public sentiment required the calling out of the State National Guard, stating the county sheriff had asked for them to prevent any mob outbreak.

The fact no negroes were on the jury was not significant, the Attorney General argued, and did not prove that the names of the negroes were not in the box from which the jury was drawn. He insisted that all due processes of law had been observed at the trial.

Atty. Gen. Knight will present the argument for the State of Alabama before the U. S. Supreme Court when that tribunal sits Oct. 10 for the submission of oral arguments in connection with review of the cases of the seven negroes.

"I think the defendants are guilty and had a fair trial—a trial as fair as could be accorded them in any state," the Attorney General said last night.

"The Supreme Court of the United States has decided it would review these cases," he stated. "In view of that attitude, I am perfectly willing that it does review them. The cases have been set for oral argument on Oct. 10. I will personally argue them for the State of Alabama at that time."

NEW YORK HERALD-TRIBUNE

MAY 27 1932

Vienna Reds Stone U. S. Legation Motor

Negro Sympathizers Try to Stop Tablet Unveiling

By Cable to the Herald Tribune

Copyright, 1932, New York Tribune Inc.

VIENNA, May 26.—Aroused by the public appearance here of Mrs. Ada Wright, one of whose sons is among the seven Negroes awaiting execution at Scottsboro, Ala., for attacking white women, youthful Communists of Vienna today attempted a demonstration to prevent the unveiling of a memorial tablet to George Washington.

The rioters were dispersed and a score arrested after they had thrown stones, one of which smashed the window of the motor car of Merritt Swift, First Secretary of the American Legation. The car, which bore an American flag, was on the way to the celebration.

The memorial tablet, over the main entrance to one of the new municipal apartment blocks for workers, named the George Washington Hof, was being unveiled in the presence of President Wilhelm Miklas, Mayor Karl Seitz, Gilchrist B. Stockton, the American Minister, and other guests when the Communists intruded. While thousands were listening to the speeches of Mayor Seitz and Mr. Stockton, the Reds threw handbills into the crowd, crying "Down with class justice!" and "Down with the Scottsboro lynchers!"

They were silenced by the police, their ringleaders arrested and the ceremonies went on. The opening of the new settlement, which is laid out in "garden city" fashion with homes for 5,000 persons, was not seriously disturbed by the demonstration.

Since the arrival here last Monday of Mrs. Wright, as a Communist emissary pleading for aid in the Scottsboro case, the Vienna police have taken elaborate precautions to protect the American legation and consulate buildings and their officials.

Mrs. Wright Financed by Germans

Mrs. Ada Wright is the mother of Andy Wright, seventeen-year-old Negro sentenced to death at Scottsboro, and of Roy Wright, fourteen, who was acquitted at a retrial. She sailed on April 20 for a three months' tour of the principal cities of Europe, to urge protests against the court decision. Her trip is being financed by the International Red Aid, a German organization affiliated with the International Labor Defense, of this country.

HIGH COURT HEARS SCOTTSBORO CASE

WASHINGTON, May 27.—(AP)—Both sides of the Scottsboro (Ala.) case were presented today to members of the supreme court in petitions circulated among the justices, urging with equal fervor that the court grant and refuse a review of the death sentence of seven negroes for assaulting two white girls.

On next Tuesday the court will announce whether it will review the cases.

SUPREME COURT TO REVIEW NEGRO DEATH SENTENCE

Orders Dry Killer Tried Under State Law.

Chicago Tribune

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Washington, D. C., May 31.—[Special.]—Under the protection of a special guard of 100 policemen and plain clothes men, the Supreme court held its final spring session today.

6/1/32

Among its final decisions was one granting a review for the seven colored men sentenced to death at Scottsboro, Ala., on being convicted of assaulting two white girls.

The police guard was called after local officials had received reports a communist demonstration might be staged in event the court refused a new trial for the seven Negroes. The court, however, in a formal order agreed to review the case and set the hearing for Monday, Nov. 10. The seven were to have been executed on June 24, but the court order today automatically stays the execution.

State to Try Dry Killer.

In a second major decision which may have a bearing on prohibition enforcement, the Supreme court held that Henry Dierks, a federal dry agent charged with killing a prisoner, should be tried in the state rather than the federal courts.

Although department of justice officials had no comment today to make on the Dierks decision, the possibility developed that it may vitally affect the government's long standing policy of immediately transferring killing cases in which dry agents are arrested to the federal courts where they have a better chance for acquittal. In many instances in the past agents charged with killings have been transferred from state courts.

Overrule Federal Judge.

Dierks had hit a prisoner on the head with a revolver and killed him. The prohibition agent was arrested and taken into the state courts but he asserted that as a federal prohibition agent he was immune from prosecution there and must be tried in the federal courts. J. Foster Symes judge of the Colorado federal District court, granted a writ of habeas corpus to Dierks and the case was taken to the federal courts, but the state of Colorado fought the action charging deliberate murder and the Supreme court today decided in Colorado's favor.

"Federal officers and employés are not, merely because they are such, granted immunity from prosecution in state courts for crimes against a state law," Justice Butler said.

Lynchings - 1932
Legal Punishment for Rape

Alabama

3692

Asheville, N. C., Citizen
Tuesday, November 8, 1932

The Scottsboro Decision

Justices Butler and McReynolds, dissenting vigorously from the decision of the United States Supreme Court granting new trials to the seven young negroes who were convicted of rape at Scottsboro, Alabama, are quoted in the news dispatches as saying that the majority opinion of the court "was based on a single statement of fact involving the appointment of counsel." As yet the full opinion of the Supreme Court in this celebrated case is not available, but the point made in the dissenting opinion seems to be in line with the press report of the majority finding of the court as written by Justice Sutherland.

True, emphasis is laid in the majority opinion on the presence at the trials of armed militia, on the hostile sentiment which prevailed, on the fact that the defendants were young and illiterate. But these circumstances would not of themselves warrant the conclusion that the trials were not fair. When the defendants are again brought to trial it will probably be necessary to have the militia present once more on the scene. For that matter, when the case was argued before the United States Supreme Court in Washington recently the police of the capital city took special precautions to prevent possible disorders even there; and yesterday immediately prior to the rendering of the court's decision there were disturbances in the capitol plaza in which four policemen were injured and a number of men and women who had gathered to demonstrate for the Scottsboro defendants were placed under arrest.

In short, it is not possible for courts to control public feeling. They can continue cases until feeling has a chance to subside, but that is a matter of discretion. They can transfer cases to some other locality where the presumption is that a different atmosphere will exist, but that, too, is a matter of discretion. It would seem, therefore, that in the present instance the Supreme Court's decision that the Scottsboro defendants did not have a fair trial turns on the finding of the court that they were not provided with counsel competent to represent their interests adequately. Justice Butler is reported to disagree with this finding.

The Alabama supreme court had found that the trials were fair, so the decision of the United States Supreme Court constitutes a reversal of the highest court of that State as well as a stinging rebuke to the trial court at Scottsboro. It adds another chapter to a case which had already had wide repercussions. What the end of it will be only time can tell

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Macon, Ga. Telegraph
Tuesday, November 8, 1932

The Scottsboro Decision

The decision of the United States Supreme court yesterday in setting aside the conviction of seven Negroes tried at Scottsboro, Ala., upon the ground that they did not have a fair trial, puts into the law of the country the contention that Orville Park made in the John Downer case in Georgia—a contention which is to be decided by Judge Bascom Deaver, before whom a motion is pending: the principle that a trial must be fair in substance as well as form if the defendant is not to be deprived of his constitutional rights.

The Scottsboro case arose out of a freight train ride in which two white girls allegedly were assaulted by a number of Negroes after they had fought and ejected from the train some white boys who were with the Negroes. The case aroused great feeling in North Alabama. The trial was held amidst that feeling. The statement has been made, whether true or not, that a band played outside the courthouse as the trial progressed. Certainly the verdict was foretold, as it was in the Downer case.

The Supreme court holds that the case must be retried; that counsel must be allowed proper time for its preparation and that in substance the defendants must have a trial actually as fair in its background as it is possible to achieve.

It strikes The Telegraph that the Supreme court decision also is applicable to the Downer case, from Elberton, this state. There the trial was held while a National guard detachment preserved order. The atmosphere was so prejudicial to the defendant that had he not been under the guard of troops, his life would have been taken, doubtless. There was the form of a fair trial, but nobody would seriously contend there was the substance of a fair trial.

In a civilization which rests so strongly upon a foundation of impartial justice, it is essential to achieve the purest form of justice possible. The Supreme court decision makes it more imperative than ever that we in the South, occasionally disturbed and inflamed by race feeling after a particularly atrocious crime of degeneracy, shall take great precaution that what we do in the way of punishment is not only legal, but also morally fair.

N. Y. SUN
NOV 7 193[illegible]

SUPREME COURT ORDERS RETRIAL FOR 7 NEGROES

Sets Aside Death Sentences and Sends Case Back to Alabama.

TWO JUSTICES FILE DISSENT

Capitol Police Turn Away Group of Demonstrators on Way to Court Building.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7 (A. P.).—The Supreme Court today set aside the death sentences imposed on seven Negroes at Scottsboro, Ala. The ruling by the court means that the cases will go back to the Alabama courts for new trial.

The highest court upheld the contention of counsel for the Negroes, convicted of assaulting two white girls, that they had not had a fair trial. The decision by Justice Sutherland reviewed in detail the charges and the grounds on which the appeal was taken. He said it was necessary in deciding the case to consider only whether the rights of the men to have counsel was denied and whether this infringed the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

Justice Sutherland said that the men from the time of their arraignment to the beginning of trial had been substantially denied counsel at a time when such representation was of vital importance in properly preserving the rights of the defendants. He suggested that the cases had been forced to trial without proper preparation by counsel. All other grounds for seeking to have the conviction set aside were passed over by the Justice as of no material weight.

New Point for High Court.

In the decision, which ordered the case back for another trial, Justice Sutherland said the question whether the Fourteenth Amendment guaranteed the right of counsel had not been previously decided by the highest court. He then pointed out at length the need of counsel for preparation of cases to preserve the rights of litigants.

He said counsel should actively participate in such a case to prevent what might be termed "judicial murder."

Justices Butler and McReynolds dissented from the majority opinion.

Justice Butler, in announcing his dissent, said the seven had a fair trial and had been given the benefit of counsel. He quoted from the decision of the Alabama Supreme Court to sustain his position.

It must be inferred from the record, he said, that an able attorney had acted for the defendants from the beginning. He insisted the counsel for the defendants had been in no way intimidated in the full discharge of their duty to their clients.

Justice Butler insisted the evidence sustained the guilty verdict.

The decision entered State fields never before touched upon by the highest court, he said. Justice McReynolds joined in the views of Justice Butler.

Heavy Guard for Court.

The case had attracted worldwide attention, and because of the intense feeling aroused by it extra guards have been at the court on almost every opinion day since late last term. Communist in this country and abroad have sent thousands of letters to the court demanding freedom for the seven.

They were Andy Wright and Haywood Patterson of Chattanooga, Willie Roberson of Memphis, Charlie Weems, Clarence Norris and Ozie Powell of Atlanta and Olen Montgomery of Monroe, Ga. The attacks occurred on a freight train, which was going south from Chattanooga into Alabama on March 25, 1931, according to the charges.

In addition to the girls and Negroes, several white boys were on the train. Testimony at the trial was that they were forced or thrown off the freight train before the alleged assaults.

The Negroes were indicted on March 31, 1931, and the trial was concluded on April 8. The Alabama Supreme Court refused to review the cases.

Near the close of last term, however, the Supreme Court granted a review, automatically suspending the death sentences of the Negroes, the time for execution of which was close.

The basis of the appeal to the highest court was that the Negroes had not had a fair trial.

In his argument, Walter H. Pollak of New York, counsel for the condemned men, said feeling against the Negroes was such that it undoubtedly had its effect on the jury.

Thomas E. Knight Jr., Attorney-General of Alabama, said the points raised by Pollak had been carefully reviewed by the Alabama Supreme Court and it had rejected them.

There was no doubt, he said, that the assaults occurred. Reviewing the trial, he argued that there was no basis for the contention that it was unfair. Their rights were protected, he said, through competent counsel.

Demonstrators Turned Back.

Just before the court went into session thirteen persons were arrested and a policeman was hurt as the result o fa brisk clash on the Capitol grounds between group of demonstrators and the police.

The group, comprising about hundred persons, marched up Capitol Hill toward the Supreme Court to demand freedom for the seven Scottsboro Negroes.

Capitol authorities had told the demonstrators ahead of time that they would not be allowed to parade. There was a short but sharp struggle. Nightsticks rose and fell. In a few minutes most of the marchers were headed back the way they came.

The injured policemen, Georg Walker, was set upon outside the entrance to the Capitol grounds. He was beaten and kicked but returned to his post after first aid treatment.

Those arrested, including four women, were booked at police stations on open charges. They gave their names as Alice Wilson, 17 years old, of Washington, D. C.; Mary Rubby, 36, of New York; Charles Israel, 30, of Pittsburgh; William Randall, 30, Negro, Charlotte county, Va.; Edward Richardson, 2[illegible] Negro, of Washington, D. C., and Oscar Robert, 20, Henry Cole, 37, Negro; Sam Gales, 2[illegible] Negro; David Rambert, 47, Negro; Harry Muritis, 38; Mary Beer, 40 and Cecelia Stone, 20, all of Baltimore.

A man who described himself a Abe Simon but refused to give hi age or address was charged wit assault on a policeman, Joh Robey.

OUR SUPREME COURT

The action of seven members of the Supreme Court of the United States in ordering new trials for seven Negro youths involved in the Scottsboro, Ala., farce, certainly meets the approval of all fair-minded men and women, and goes far toward increasing faith in the courts of our land. The farce-like affairs staged in the little Alabama town, in the form of trials met strenuous condemnation on the part of many white citizens of Alabama, as well as humanitarians throughout the world, and if the death sentences imposed by the jury trying the youthful, illiterate youths had been allowed to stand, respect for courts would have been greatly lowered.

East Tennessee News
11-10-32

The situation suggests a comparison of the attitude exhibited by Judge E. G. Stooksbury, of our Knox county criminal court, and that of the Alabama jurist. Several Negroes have been arraigned in the local court on serious charges growing out of crimes directed at white persons. In every instance the presiding jurist manifested a marked degree of fairness as he gave the defendants advantage of the very best counsel that could be secured, and it cannot be charged that a fair and impartial trial was not provided in every instance, regardless as to the outcome of the cases.

Knoxville, Tenn.

Because of the manifestation of such thoughtful consideration on the part of Judge Stooksbury, faith in and respect for the courts exist, and a pleasant relationship between the races abounds.

In view of the circumstances surrounding the Scottsboro case, there is serious doubt in the minds of many close observers of the situation there that the Negro youths are guilty of such serious charges as have been pressed by the Alabama courts. Plans are now under way to bring the defendants to trial again at an early date. It appears that the ends of justice would be fully met if these boys should be released, thereby saving thousands of dollars to their poor relatives and friends that will be required in employing counsel to defend them again and perfecting appeals that will very likely become necessary following more trials.

SCOTTOSBORO CASE REMANDED

[illegible]
Kansas City, Kansas
11-11-32

The United States Supreme Court has just handed down a decision in the Scottsboro case involving seven Negroes who had been tried in the court at Scottsboro, Alabama, on a charge of assault upon two white girls. In the lower court they were sentenced to die, which sentence was affirmed by the Supreme Court of Alabama. The case has attracted world-wide attention due to several factors that have entered the case. Feeling from the beginning was intense as such cases usually invite in the South. Wide spread has been the opinion that the convicted boys could not or did not have a fair trial under the inflamed condition in the midst of which the trial was held. Communistic influences and activities have served to stir bitter prejudice and inflame the public to an unusual pitch. Grave fears have been held for the outcome, but hope has kept alive the possibility of a new trial. The decision of the United States Supreme Court has sustained that hope, and given the boys a new trial. The decision was made mainly on the ground that the convicted boys did not have a fair trial at Scottsboro due to lack of proper counsel and sufficient time to prepare. And so this far-famed case, surrounded by many suspicious elements, has been remanded for a new hearing. It is hoped that the new trial may be had under circumstances that will allow the matter to end the injustice.

SCOTTSBORO CASE CALLED 'LANDMARK

Times

Decision Ordering New Trials Is Viewed as. Vindication of Labor Defense Policy.

11-9-32

HARD LEGAL FIGHT CITED

New York, N. Y.

Elliot E. Cohen Praises World Group That Acted on Behalf of Condemned Negroes.

The decision of the United States Supreme Court ordering new trials for seven Negroes condemned to death at Scottsboro, Ala., on charges of attacking two white girls, was hailed yesterday by the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners as a vindication of the defense policy of the International Labor Defense.

Elliot E. Cohen, secretary of the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners, the membership of which includes writers, artists and educators, wrote William L. Patterson, national secretary of the International Labor Defense, that the organization deserved "all possible credit for coming to the aid of these boys when all recognized official and unofficial organizations and institutions hung back in the face of so difficult and desperate a case, and for having waged the long battle inside and outside the courts undauntedly, uncompromisingly and effectively."

The letter said hat the case has "thrown an intense spotlight on the ghastly situation of the Negroes in the South" and that the Scottsboro case "bids fair, we believe, to become a great historic landmark in the political education and advancement of men and women, both Negro and white, in the United States." The letter continued:

"The International Labor Defense, as the organization with the wisdom to see this case in this broad aspect, and the fortitude to undertake to fight it not as an isolated, accidental 'miscarriage of justice,' but as a typical example of the whole process of law and civilization of the South, deserves the highest praise. We shall, on our part, not relax our campaign to enlist the hugest possible number of intellectuals * * * to rescue these innocent boys."

Durham, N. C., Morning Herald
Wednesday, November 9, 1932

SCOTTSBORO CASE

The United States supreme court did not confer a favor on the state of Alabama when it sent the now famous Scottsboro case back for a new trial. That is one case Alabama would like to get rid of. It has now become as famous as the Sacco-Vanzetti and the Mooney-Billings cases.

Seven young Negroes were arrested on a charge of attacking two white girls they found hoboing in a freight car. They were tried and convicted. Immediately the Communists rushed to the defense of the defendants, and, as is customary, a big sensation was made of the case. The defendants were convicted and sentenced to death. The Alabama state supreme court, even though threatened with dire fate if it affirmed the decision of the lower court, did not let those threats deter it from what it believed the law and its duty under the law. Then the radicals carried the case to the United States supreme court. That tribunal, by a divided opinion, sends the case back, basing its opinion on the ground that the defendants had not had counsel or ample time to prepare a defense. Other issues involved in the appeal were not discussed by the court.

Now the state of Alabama will have to go through with another trial. Of course, if the defendants did not have proper defense as the law guarantees all, they should have a new trial. We are not discussing that phase. But the fact that the case will have to be tried again, with all sorts of threats coming from the "reds" who if not actual are potential criminals, with demonstrations being held there and elsewhere by the Communists and others of that ilk, it can be readily understood why the state of Alabama will look forward to the trial with considerable anxiety.

Having failed in trying to intimidate the courts in the Sacco-Vanzetti and Mooney-Billings cases, the reds probably are hoping that they will be able to break through the law in the Scottsboro case.

Lynchings-1932
&
Legal Punishment for Rape.

3693

Alabama

3693

[illegible] News 11-9-32

New York, N.Y.

SEVEN SCOTTSBORO DEFENDANTS GIVEN RIGHT TO RETRIAL

Majority Opinion Assails Dixie Mob Domination--Two Judges Dissent in Minority Report

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7.—The United States Supreme Court decided today that when in April of 1931 an Alabama jury found seven of the nine original Scottsboro defendants guilty of assaulting two white girls — Victoria Price and Ruby Bates — while a lynching mob surged outside the court house, this circumstance precluded the possibility of a fair trial, and set aside the death sentences imposed upon them. The cases go back to Alabama for retrial.

The Scottsboro court's decision was reversed by the Alabama Supreme Court early this year in the case of Eugene Williams, age 13, on the ground that he was a juvenile, and a mistrial had previously been declared in the case of Roy Wright, age 14, when the others were convicted and sentenced to death, on the same grounds.

Today's decision in the cases, which followed the granting of a review last June, was read by Mr. Justice Sutherland while a demonstration led by Communists in favor of the defendants raged outside the building, and in which two policemen were injured and thirteen persons arrested. The case came before the Supreme Court on a writ of certiorari granted May 31 last.

Court Upholds I. L. D. Attorney.

The highest court upheld the contention of counsel for the seven boys—Walter H. Pollak, New York, of the International Labor Defense, a Communist organization—that they had not a fair trial.

The decision by Justice Sutherland reviewed in detail the charges and the grounds on which the appeal was taken. He said it was necessary in deciding the case to consider only whether the rights of the men to have counsel was denied and whether this infringed the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

In the decision, which ordered th [illegible] back for another trial, Justic [illegible] said the question whethe the Fourteenth Amendment guaranteed the right of counsel had not been previously decided by the highest court.

Butler and McReynolds Dissent.

Justices Pierce Butler of Minnesota and James C. McReynolds of Tennessee dissented from the majority opinion. Justice Butler, in announcing his dissent, said the seven had a fair trial and had been given the benefit of counsel. He quoted from the decision of the Alabama Supreme Court to sustain his position.

The case had attracted worldwide attention, and because of the intense feeling aroused by it extra guards have been at the court on almost every opinion day since late last term.

The youths who have been granted new trials are **Ozie Powell**, 14; **Willie Roberson**, 17; **Andy Wright**, 18; **Olen Montgomery**, 17; **Haywood Patterson**, 17; **Charlie Weems**, 20, and **Clarence Norris**, 19.

The story of the Case.

Two sets of boys, the nine colored boys and seven white boys, were on a freight train March 25, 1931, going south from Chattanooga into Alabama. The two young white women were also on the train. All of them were in a "gondola" or open car.

The two sets of boys began fighting. The white boys, with the exception of one named Gilley, were thrown off the train. A telegram was sent to "get every Negro off of the train." The message said nothing about any molestation of the girls, but did report the fight between the two sets of boys.

At the way station of Paint Rock, southwest of Scottsboro, a sheriff's posse met the train and seized those who were still on it. The notion got abroad that some injury had been done the girls. The girls and the prisoners were taken at once to Scottsboro. The two girls, one married and one single, were examined by physicians within one or two hours of the alleged occurrence, but it was not found that they had been assaulted.

At Scottsboro the excitement became intense. The sheriff asked the Governor to call out the National Guard. At 9 o'clock in the evening the Adjutant-General, acting by the Governor's order, telephoned from Montgomery to Major Starnes at Guntersville to take hold of the situation with his men. Major Starnes with other officers and three companies arrived at Scottsboro within three hours after the call.

Indictments Speedily Returned.

On the same day after the alleged crime Circuit Judge Hawkins summoned the Grand Jury and called a special session of the Circuit Court. All defendants were indicted March 31. They were brought to trial only for an alleged rape on Victoria Price effected in concert. Four indictments, however, were returned against each defendant; a collective indictment in the Price case, a similar collective indictment in the Bates case, and two individual indictments in the cases respectively of the two women.

The defendants were arraigned on the same day they were indicted, but the minutes show no reference to an appointment of counsel. The court set April 6 as the date of trial for all the cases.

None of the defendants had up to the time of their trial employed counsel. The trial of Weems and Norris was commenced on April 6 and ended on the 7th. The trial of Patterson was commenced on the 7th and ended on the 8th. The trial of Powell and his four co-defendants was commended and concluded on the 8th.

The juries were composed exclusively of white persons. A large number of colored land-owners were qualified for jury service, but no one was selected for the entire trial. The exclusion was "by reason of a custom of long standing."

The record does not show what questons were asked jurors before they were accepted for service. It does, however, show that they were not asked whether they entertained a prejudice against colored persons.

No Witnesses Except Accused.

The only witnesses the defense called in any of the cases were the other boys under indictment for the same offense. The records show no opening address for any defendant and no closing address. The judge's charges were stereotyped and virtually identical in the three cases. He told the first jury: "Let me have your attention for a few moments and then you will have this case."

In all the cases and as to all the defendants the juries brought in verdicts of guilty. There is a shade of disagreement over the facts whether at the time the Weems jury reported the hosiery mill band paraded and played such tunes as "Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here" and "There'll Be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight." The State contends that the hosiery [illegible] band played later in the afternoon.

Upon all the defendants the juries imposed the death penalty. All the defendants were sentenced April 9. Execution in all cases was set for July 10. An appeal to the Alabama Supreme Court was taken on the same day sentences were imposed and the sentences were suspended pending disposition of the appeal.

One Ala. Jurist Dissents.

In the course of the next few weeks the defendants' families retained for the boys George W. Chamlee of Chattanooga. After he came into the case he filed new motions for new trials and in these he asserted the claim of constitutional right. The motions for new trial were denied June 22, 1931. The majority of the Alabama Supreme Court in all the cases affirmed the convictions. Chief Justice Anderson in all the cases dissented.

The question presented to the Supreme Court was not whether the defendants were innocent or guilty. It was solely whether their constitutional rights have been preserved.

The argument in behalf of the defendants may be summarized as follows:

"There was no fair, impartial and deliberate trial and there was therefore a denial of due process. The decision of the State Court is erroneous. A trial in circumstances of mob domination—in circumstances that preclude deliberation—is not due process of law. Conviction, confinement and death penalty after a trial so conducted constitute deprivation of liberty and life contrary to the Constitution of the United States."

Thomas E. Knight, Jr., Attorney General of Alabama, argued the case for his state.

Police Arrest Thirteen.

Just before the court went into session a group of Communist sympathizers, comprising about a hundred persons, marched up Capitol Hill toward the Supreme Court to demand freedom for the seven Scottsboro defendants.

Capitol authorities had told the demonstrators ahead of time that they would not be allowed to parade. There was a short but sharp struggle. Nightsticks rose and fell. In a few minutes most of the marchers were headed back the way they came. The injured policeman, George Walker, was beaten and kicked, but returned to his post after first-aid treatment, it was reported.

Those arrested, including four women, were booked at police stations on open charges. They gave their names as Alice Wilson, 17, white, Washington, D. C.; Mary Ruboy, 36, white, New York City; Charles Israel, 30, white, Pittsburgh; William Randall, 30, colored, Charlotte county, Va.; Edward Richardson, 26, colored, Washington, D. C.; Oscar Robert, 20, white; Henry Cole, 37, colored; Sam Gales, 29, colored; David Rambert, 47, colored, and Harry Muritis, 38, white; Mary Beer, 40, and Cecelia Stone, 20, both white and of Baltimore.

A man who described himself as Abe Simon, white, but refused to give his age or address, was charged with assault on Policeman John Robey.

N. A. A. C. P. Withdraws from Case.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People became interested in the Scottsboro boys soon after the International Labor Defense took upon itself the task of saving the defendants' lives but the two organizations found it impossible to work together and the N. A. A. C. P. withdrew from the case after having retained Clarence Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hays, both noted criminal attorneys, for the defense. Arthur B. Spingarn, chairman of the legal committee of the N. A. A. C. P., however, was invited by Atty. Pollak to sit in on the case when it was argued before the Supreme Court.

...Action of U.S. Supreme Court

In the interest of American justice, persons who had taken an active hand in the Scottsboro case issued statements of praise yesterday, as a direct result of the action of the United States Supreme Court. The comments follow:

N. A. A. C. P. Elated.

WALTER WHITE, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is elated at the Supreme Court decision granting a new trial in the Scottsboro cases. We are especially gratified that the decision reaffirms the principle and precedent established in a previous case, the Arkansas riot cases of 1919, carried to the Supreme Court by this association, in which it was ruled that a trial in a court dominated by a mob is not due process of law. It is hoped that prejudice from either side may be kept out of the retrial in Alabama and that the innocence of the defendants, of which we are convinced, may be clearly established.

Expected Decision.

MORRIS L. ERNST, attorney actively connected with many civil liberties cases—I expected the decision after the decision in the Arkansas riot cases. I think that I should comment also on the indifference to politics shown by the court in handling down its decision just before election.

Fair Trial Impossible.

ROGER N. BALDWIN, director of the American Civil Liberties Union—The plain fact of the trial in the midst of a mob of 10,000 around the court house, held in check by State troops, convinced everybody except the Alabama Supreme Court that the Scottsboro boys did not have a fair trial. Although courts are presumed not to know what everybody else knows, the United States Supreme Court could not have come fairly to any other decision. If the Alabama officials will now recognize the flimsy case against the boys they will now release them on bail and forget another trial. Considering the nature of the charges, these boys can never get a fair trial in Alabama.

Time for Rejoicing.

ARTHUR GARFIELD HAYS, general counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union—The decision of the Supreme Court in the Scottsboro case marks the second occasion in which that court has reversed State tribunals in connection with a criminal case. The other decision, due to an unfair trial, also concerned Negroes. Every impartial person familiar with the facts must rejoice at the decision and must accord to the Communists the credit for pushing the case to the limit. Unfortunately the fight against injustice is too often left to those who do not believe in our institutions. Certainly this case shows up the respectables. What will influence the Southern court is no mere evidence of innocence, although the innocence had been proved completely. What will free the Scottsboro boys is the same thing that has forced the Supreme Court to grant them a new trial—mass pressure and mass protest.

Mass Pressure.

WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, Communist candidate for Mayor of New York City—The partial victory achieved by Negro and white masses in the Scottsboro case clearly demonstrates the correctness of the policy of the International Labor Defense as opposed to the policy of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Only mass pressure saved the Scottsboro boys. No unsupported appeal to the lyncher's court could have saved them. The development of the united front of Negro and white workers in the defense struggle to infinitely higher levels is the only guarantee for complete victory in the Scottsboro case.

The verdict was no gesture of impartiality and justice. The verdict was forced from the hands of the United States Supreme Court, which carefully avoided the fundamental questions raised by the defense. Contrary to the statement of Walter White, the verdict was not based on the Arkansas cases.

The I. L. D. will immediately move for bail for all of the imprisoned boys. A writ of habeas corpus to secure the release of Roy Wright and Eugene Williams, whose cases were not reviewed by the Supreme Court, is now being prepared by I. L. D. attorneys.

Negro and white workers must support the struggle with all financial aid possible. The Scottsboro case will be made the starting point of a world movement of relentless struggle for the rights of the Negro people.

In the name of the I. L. D., and as national secretary of that body, I wish to thank The Amsterdam News for opening its news columns for the soliciting of unds for the defense of the Scottsboro boys.

SCOTTSBORO MA FIGHTS BUGS IN PRAGUE PRISON

Afro-American
9-24-32
Baltimore
Md

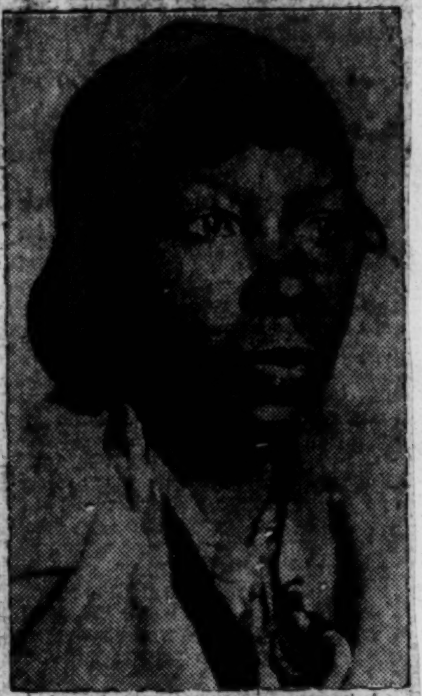
By MRS. ADA WRIGHT

EDITOR'S NOTE—Mrs. Wright is the mother of two of the nine boys now in the death house of Kilby Prison, Scottsboro, Ala. An AFRO editorial two weeks ago pointed out that Communism is teaching the Negro that he can go to jail honorably.

I never dreamed that I had the strength to make a seven months tour of the United States and then to cross the Atlantic and for more than four months now to "carry on" in the European Scottsboro campaign.

There have been many difficulties. But my love for my two sons, the overwhelming desire and hope to see them free again, with all the Scottsboro boys, with the growing desire, that I did not understand 17 months ago, to achieve something for my race and my class, have kept me strong. I grew to understand the police attacks upon our meetings. I could even understand my being expelled twice from Belgium, a country which tyrannizes over so many millions of my people in the Congo, in Africa.

She Wouldn't Cry in Bosses' Jail



MRS. ADA WRIGHT, mother of Roy and Andy Wright who has addressed hundreds of thousands of European workers in fifteen countries, on behalf of the nine Scottsboro boys whose case comes up before the U.S. Supreme Court October 10. Seven of these Negro boys have been convicted on framed charges and sentenced to die in the electric chair.

But I didn't think that they would ever send me to jail and to prison, just for trying to save the lives of my two sons.

Yet, I have been to prison in our struggle to save the Scottsboro boys.

I, I will say now, that I am willing to go again, and for a longer time if it will help the cause in which so many millions of workers are struggling.

Same Workers

They arrested me at Klodno, in the coal fields near Prague, in Czechoslovakia. I had never heard of Czechoslovakia, or of Prague, or Klodno, before they were included in our European tour. But the workers here were just like the workers that I saw in the twelve other countries I had visited.

I was arrested before I ever spoke at or even reached the Klodno meeting. They dragged me off to the police station and tried to terrorize me into admitting that I was trying to carry on Communist propaganda. They tried to get me to say that I intended talking "politics," and that I was trying to interfere with the local conditions in Klodno. I told them I didn't know anything about conditions in Klodno, that I didn't know enough yet to talk politics, and that I felt I didn't know enough yet about Communism to be a good Communist.

Arrested at 1 A.M.

At first they said they would release me after the meeting, which went on without me, was over. But they lied. They announced instead they would lock me up for the night. I demanded the right to go to a hotel and said I would pay for it with my own money.

This they refused me. It was 1 o'clock in the morning when they put me into a cell and locked me up.

Some of the comrades had remained close to me all this time. But they were forced to say at last "Good night!"

At that moment I never felt so much alone in all my life. I admit that I nearly broke down and cried.

But in that very moment I resolved not to shed a single tear in any boss-class jail or prison. And I didn't, although the three nights following were even worse than the first.

Sunday night I spent in the Prague police station fighting off the bugs and vermin. I shall never forget. And the next day, Labor Day in the United States, September 5, I was taken to the Fispann Prison, where deportees are interned before being sent out of the country. Instead of releasing me the interior minister, through his own paper, called me a "Bolshevik Negro Woman," in big headlines, and "a Black Communist."

Fight is Not in Vain

So on the fourth day they sent me out of the country with Comrade Engdahl, declaring we were "undesirable foreigners."

The police accompanied us on the train as far as the Austrian border to see that we were safely out of the country.

The Austrian comrades greeted us on our arrival at Vienna and began arranging meetings to take the place of those denied us in Czechoslavakia.

And I see that the newspapers everywhere are discussing the action of the Czechoslokavia government and the Scottsboro campaign. Perhaps I did not go to jail in vain.

Anniston, Ala. Star
Tuesday, November 8, 1932

SUPREME COURT DECISION IN THE SCOTTSBORO CASE

Alabamians generally regret that the United States Supreme Court has found it advisable to order new trials for the seven negroes convicted in Scottsboro of criminal assault and sentenced to death. They regret that it will be necessary to go through the ordeal of another trial; that feelings that had subsided to some extent must be aroused again, and that the State of Alabama also must once more go on trial in the eyes of the outside world.

However, the highest court of the land has spoken and Alabama can only follow the mandates of that honored tribunal. Alabama is as anxious as any other state or group of people to see that justice is done in each and every case tried within her borders, whether the persons charged with crime be white or black, and we maintain faith in the integrity of our state courts, believing that they endeavor to see that all who come before them are given the full benefits of their rights under the law, regardless of their race, condition or circumstances. Since our people desire that everyone placed on trial be given all legal opportunity to prove his innocence, they cannot do anything except follow the direction of higher courts and demonstrate beyond all doubt that this has been done in the case in question.

In ordering new trials, the Supreme Court based its action on what it believed to be evidence that the negroes had not received all the consideration to which they were entitled. It was stated that apparently the defendants were not provided adequate legal representation and that was held to be sufficient reason for granting a retrial. As we have stated, Alabama is desirous of giving a fair trial in this case, as in all others, and cannot do otherwise now than go about correcting any omissions that may have occurred the first time and give evidence to the world that it is fair in its dealings with all.

While The Star differed with the majority in Alabama to the effect that the defendants were granted a fair and impartial trial at Scottsboro, the Supreme Court of Alabama sustained that view, holding that there was no evidence that prejudice had entered into the decision of the trial court and that it had fulfilled all the requirements of the law. But the Supreme Court of the nation has reversed that decision, ruling that there was a lack of provision for the defense of the accused negroes, and Alabama can only abide by that order.

The most regrettable feature of the situation is that outsiders will take this as an indication that the Alabama courts were not diligent in their efforts to provide an impartial trial or that the decision was based on prejudice. The forces seeking to undermine the foundations of stable government will hail it as a victory for their cause, and yet it is but an indorsement of Chief Justice Anderson of Alabama, who held in a minority opinion that sufficient counsel had not been granted the defendants.

Lynchings-1932
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Alabama.

3694

BRONX HOME NEWS

NOV 10 1932

The Scottsboro Decision

The decision of the United States Supreme Court in setting aside the death sentence imposed upon seven colored youths in the so-called "Scottsboro Case" in Alabama not only checks an apparent wrong, but also serves notice on law-enforcement agencies throughout the country that the nation's highest tribunal does not — and will not — tolerate legal procedure that may result in "judicial murder."

Unfortunately, two of the Court's members saw fit to dissent from the majority opinion written by Justice Sutherland. These two dissenting Justices — Butler and McReynolds — contended that the seven youths had a fair trial, with full benefit of counsel, and Justice Butler quoted from the decision of the Alabama Supreme Court to sustain this position.

The other seven members of the Court, however, found that the youths, from the time of their arraignment to the beginning of trial, had been substantially denied counsel at a time when such representation was of vital importance in properly preserving the rights of the defendants. Justice Sutherland, after a lengthy review, suggested that the cases had been forced to trial without proper preparation by counsel.

The appeal of this case gave the Supreme Court opportunity to pass for the first time on a point never before decided — whether the Fourteenth Amendment guarantees the right of counsel. The majority opinion establishes this right to counsel as being essential to preserve the basic rights of litigants.

The Scottsboro case has attracted world-wide attention because it gave Communists everywhere an opportunity to demonstrate the unfairness of "class justice" in the United States.

It is more than likely that the injustice done the seven colored youths is evidence not so much of "class discrimination" as of discrimination against the colored people in the South, but as the Communists have for one of the major planks in their program the elimination of "white chauvinism" they were able to combine two issues in one.

It is problematical whether the condemned youths could have carried their case to the nation's highest court if it were not for the interest which Communists and "intellectuals" have taken in the effort to clear them. These groups first presented to the public the circumstances under which the young colored boys were tried and sentenced to death on a charge of attacking two white girls on a freight train. It was the International Labor Defense which carried the case to the Alabama Supreme Court and to the highest court of the land.

If it were not that "Southern justice" occasionally is notoriously unfair to colored suspects, especially in offenses of the kind that in the North do not call for the death penalty, there might be grounds to doubt that even these seven youths received an unfair trial. But in this case, investigation has borne out the original suspicion of "legal lynching," and it has revealed, moreover, a decided unwillingness upon the part of Alabama authorities to have the case reopened.

The Supreme Court's decision will compel them to give the convicted youths another trial. For the sake of Alabama's "fair name," the new trial should be as fair as the first trial was prejudiced.

Oklahoma City, Okla
NEWS

NOV 8 1932

HIGH COURT IN STINGING REBUKE

Retrial Ordered in Scottsboro Case in Which 7 Negroes Were Doomed

DENIED 'DUE PROCESS'

Prisoners Had Been Condemned to Death in Assault On Two White Girls

By RUTH FINNEY
Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance

WASHINGTON, Nov. 8.—No more stinging rebuke has been administered to a state court in years than the United States supreme court decision ordering the state of Alabama to re-try seven Negro boys charged with assaulting two white girls and sentenced to death at Scottsboro.

The Scottsboro trials had been reviewed and approved by the supreme court of Alabama, although the state chief justice did not concur. The attorney general of the state himself argued before the United States court that the convictions were valid.

The supreme court found that "in the light of the facts . . . the ignorance and illiteracy of the defendants, their youth, the circumstances of public hostility, the imprisonment and close surveillance of the defendants by the military forces, the fact that their friends and families were all in other states and communication with them necessarily difficult, and above all that they stood in deadly peril of their lives—we think the failure of the trial court to give them a reasonable time and opportunity to secure counsel was a clear denial of due process."

Comment of Court

The court went even further, adding:

"But passing that and assuming their inability, even if opportunity had been given to secure counsel, as the trial court evidently did assume, we are of the opinion that under the circumstances just stated the necessity of counsel was so vital and imperative that the failure of the trial court to make an effective appointment of counsel was likewise a denial of due process within the meaning of the 14th amendment."

This paragraph referred to the fact that the trial judge designated all members of the Scottsboro bar to represent the boys when they were arraigned, without making any one or more persons definitely responsible, and made no further appointment of counsel for the trials beyond urging, the morning the trials started, that a Tennessee man who was unprepared and unfamiliar with Alabama procedure, represent the boys.

'Expansive Gesture'

This blanket appointment the supreme court referred to as "little more than an expansive gesture imposing no substantial or definite obligation upon anyone," and pointed out that the boys "were put in peril of their lives within a few moments after counsel for the first time charged with any degree of responsibility began to represent them."

In finding that the boys had been denied due process, within the meaning of the 14th amendment to the constitution the court concluded that "to hold otherwise would be to ignore the fundamental postulate, already adverted to, 'that there are certain immutable principles of justice which inhere in the very idea of free government who no member of the union may disregard.'"

Two Justices Dissent

Justices Butler and McReynolds dissented.

The session at which the opinion was read was one of the most tense the supreme courtroom has seen, though no incident broke the quiet routine of the court's procedure.

The small room was crowded with spectators, most of them Negroes, and when Justice Sutherland began reading the majority opinion, spectators and attorneys both leaned forward and strained to hear his soft voice. The opinion was a long one and not until the final words reversing judgment were read did the listeners relax.

In contrast to the throng of blue-coated police on the plaza outside the capitol, the courtroom was unguarded. The court gave no evidence of knowing that a throng of radical demonstrators had just clashed with police outside when they attempted to march to the courtroom with banners demanding that the Scottsboro boys be freed.

Two Others Accused

Although Monday's verdict applies only to seven boys, two others arrested at the same time are still in prison and the national committee for the defense of political prisoners made an appeal in their behalf at the same time the new trial was granted. There was a mistrial in the case of one of the boys, and the conviction of the other was reversed by the Alabama supreme court on the ground that he was a juvenile. The boys have been in prison since April, 1931, nevertheless and the committee is now appealing for funds with which to bail them out and to defend them in new trials.

Athens, Tenn., Herald
Thursday, November 10, 1932

FAMOUS SCOTTSBORO CASE

Some thought when the seven young Negroes were arrested and charged with assaulting two Alabama white girls, that the criminal court would never be able to try the cases, that the infuriated white populace would "take the law in its own hands." Although the girls were alleged not to have good records, were "hoboing" back to their homes in box cars from Chattanooga where they said they had gone to seek work feeling ran high in Scottsboro against their assailiants, and troops were called out to guard the courtyard while the trial was in progress.

Prompt trial and conviction, with the extreme penalty of the law was given, probably averted a lynching and the consequent blemish on the state's record. But civil liberties organizations became interested and contended aggressively that the condemned Negroes had not had a fair trial. Finances were contributed and the case was taken up to the higher cou... he supreme court of Alabama refused to review the cases.

The United States Supreme Court granting a hearing to lawyers for the defendants, heard evidence that the Negro youths had been pushed into trial without time for adquate preparation of counsel. The highest court set aside the death sentences imposed in Alabama, so that the cases will go back to Alabama for a new trial. Justice Sutherland in giving the opinion of the court reviewed the charges and the grounds for appeal. The pivotal questions considered were whether the rights of the accused to have counsel was denied and whether this infringed the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the constitution.

To deprive a man of his life is a serious thing. There should be no question involved in it. It is well, therefore, that the Supreme Court, has sent the cases back for retrial. A change of venue and trial in strict accordance with legal procedure should now be had.

Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser
Tuesday, November 8, 1932

THE SUPREME COURT AND THE SCOTTSBORO CASE

While mobs picketed the grounds outside, sending one policeman bleeding to the hospital—there was no blood-letting at Scottsboro—the United States Supreme Court, by a divided opinion, has decided that the "Scottsboro Negroes" did not have a fair trial.

Mr. Justice Butler and Mr. Justice McReynolds dissented, arguing that the men (not children) did have a fair trial in Alabama.

The two dissenters thus sided, in effect, with the Supreme Court of Alabama, with the exception of one member of the Alabama Court.

Alabama tried to give these men a fair trial.

Alabama tried to give, and succeeded in giving, these men adequate physical protection at a time when feeling was running high.

But the layman's opinion must surrender to the professional opinion of a disinterested group.

However strong may be the conviction of Alabamians that the men were not denied their Constitutional rights while their lives were at stake, the fact remains that the highest court in the land has in the end expressed a doubt that the trial was fair.

The court has reversed Alabama.

But one significant fact stands out in the long and sordid story:

While Alabama has been blackguarded the round world over for the manner in which these men were tried and convicted, there was no conscious attempt on the part of any group of Alabamians to intimidate the Jackson county court that tried them, while intimidation of the crudest, most spectacular and most obnoxious sort has been practiced by the agitators who appointed themselves the special friends of these felons.

From all over the land, from all over the world, came threatening letters and telegrams to the Governor of Alabama and to the Supreme Court demanding the freedom of these convicted rapists.

This affair was exploited shamelessly here and in Europe. It was exploited without regard to truth, dignity or honor.

In the end insolent mobs marched in Washington with the sole purpose in mind of intimidating the highest court in the republic.

But no mobs marched in Alabama demanding the conviction of these men when they were put to trial.

Alabama is not a bloodthirsty State. The State does not demand the life of any man who has not, under the law, forfeited his right to live.

If the Supreme Court believes that these men should have another trial, Alabama will accept the inevitable with becoming grace.

Alabama wishes to wrong no man, and it does not believe that it has wronged these men.

It had thought that it did well by them, in all the circumstances.

It resents the ill repute into which its name has been forced by reckless agitators.

But if there is any reasonable doubt in disinterested, responsible minds as to the fairness of the first trial, another will be granted cheerfully.

But Alabama stands conscience-clear and unashamed before the world!

Charleston, W. Va. Gazette
Friday, November 11, 1932

The Alabama Negro Cases

We observe the decision of the supreme court in the Alabama cases where some Negro citizens, who were tried, and convicted of murder and sentenced to be hung, were given new trials. This judgment of the supreme court was based upon the broad ground that the accused men did not have a fair trial. That ought to be enough. Anyone fit to be on the supreme bench of the nation or of a state ought to be able to see from what counsel can present to it and the record, whether or not a suitor has been "railroaded", or has been tried under conditions that do not guarantee him from local prejudice, from any suspicion of having an unfair jury, and from environment that is unfriendly and which precludes that judicial atmosphere which should pervade courts and juries. Too much has been said and written about "railroading" a defendant, or about merely marking time for the final judgment in civil cases. Too much has been said and written about political influence in courts, and the time has come when there is needed a clear note from the supreme court that where it can see that a fair trial was not guaranteed, then it will exercise its right to grant a new trial. The mob spirit, the standards of the racketeer, and the politicians' methods must be eliminated from our judicial system. In our judgment, the supreme court did right in quashing a trial which seemed to it, as it must seem to the unprejudiced reader of the record of the proceedings, that public sentiment and local prejudice superseded the solemn judicial atmosphere that should surround every trial, especially when one is tried for his life.

The country has been, for years, convinced that the conviction of Mooney, in California, was not based upon justice. It has been shown that the incriminating facts, sworn to at the trial, were based upon false testimony, misunderstanding or some other things, which have no place in a court of justice. The trial judge is of that opinion. The jurors who convicted him think they were misled. Some of the witnesses against him have recanted their testimony, and it has been practically demonstrated that the man could not have done that with which he was charged. What a pity there is not a way for each judicial tribunal to correct such an injustice. The recent decision of the supreme court, before which the Mooney case cannot be taken on account of our judicial system, should encourage every facility for ensuring justice. We are as anxious as anyone else to have the lawless, the racketeers, and all those who presume to take the law into their own hands, brought to justice, but the failure to convict these is not half the stain upon our judicial system as the Mooney case, nor as the country would have viewed it had the supreme court refused to give these defendants in Alabama a new trial.

SCOTTSBORO BOYS ARE IN DANGER

Daily Worker
11-23-32

Bosses Mobilizing Lynch Gangs

New York,

NEW YORK.—William Patterson, General Secretary of the International Labor Defense, announced yestreday that the I. L. D. attorneys were vigorously pushing the fight to have Roy Wright and Eugene Williams released on bail. At the same time, proceedings were started to force the removal of the other seven Scottsboro boys from the death cells in Kilby Prison, Montgomery, Ala.

The I. L. D. must have funds immediately to push these actions, as well as to prepare the defense for the new trials in the Alabama court, ordered by the decision wrested by mass presure from the United States Supreme Court, which a few weeks ago reversed the lynch verdicts against the seven boys.

The lynch bosses, blocked in their attempts to rush the boys forwith to the electric chair, are whipping up lynch sentiment through their press and mobilizing lynch gangs to carry through their plans by other means." It is urgently necessary that the I. L. D. receive funds at once to carry on the Scottsboro fight. Workers and their organizations, and all elements interested in the fight for the Scottsboro boys, are urged to rush funds at once to the International Labor Defense, 80 East 11th St., New York City.

Scottsboro Seven Lose Pleader As Pneumonia Drops One In Moscow

Advertiser
11-23-32
Montgomery, Ala.

NEW YORK, Nov. 22.—(AP)—Dispatches from Moscow today told of the death from pneumonia of J. Louis Engdahl, member of a delegation which toured 16 countries to arouse sentiment in behalf of the seven Scottsboro, Ala., negroes under sentence of death for attacking two white girls.

The International Labor Defense, of which Engdahl was formerly general secretary, immediately laid plans for memorial mass meetings in New York, Chicago, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Detroit, Los Angeles and San Francisco on Dec. 14, when his ashes are to arrive here.

William L. Patterson, his successor as general secretary of the I. L. D., said Engdahl "died in the service of the class struggle, and especially of the struggle for the freedom of the Scottsboro boys."

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment for Rape

Alabama

3695

THE SUPREME COURT AND THE SCOTTSBORO CASE

Advertiser

11-8-32

Montgomery, Ala.

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Court Calls For New Trials In Scottsboro Case

Advertiser

11-8-32

Montgomery, Ala.

Washington Mob Parades And Attacks Police As Federal Judges Decide

Retrial Next March

Seven Negroes May Ask Venue Change; Radicals Cheer Reversal News

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7.—(AP)—New trials for the seven negroes under sentence of death at Scottsboro, Ala., for criminal assault upon two white girls were ordered today by the Supreme Court, seven of whose nine members held that the defendants were denied the right of counsel.

The decision was announced shortly after police night sticks, vigorously wielded, had repulsed a crowd of 100 radical sympathizers who were attempting to picket the court chamber in behalf of the negroes.

Capitol police halted the demonstrators near the Capitol, informed them they were violating the law and ordered them to disperse. A lively scuffle followed in which injuries were inflicted upon both police and demonstrators. Sixteen, including four women, were arrested.

Under today's decision the men will be retried in Alabama. At Fort Payne, in that State, Judge A. F. Hawkins who presided at the original trial, said the case would be brought up again at the March term of the Jackson County Circuit Court. He predicted a change of venue would be sought.

Sutherland's Decision

Justice Sutherland handed down the decision. It was based on a construction of the "due process of law" clause of the 14th amendment. The majority of the court held that the negroes had in substance been denied counsel, and that this constituted an invasion of their constitutional rights.

The minority, consisting of Justices Butler and McReynolds, took a contrary view, basing their position on the decision of the Alabama Supreme Court, and declaring that the cases clearly demonstrated all the constitutional rights of the defendants had been protected.

While a number of grounds had been advanced in the appeals for urging a reversal, Justice Sutherland said it was necessary to consider only one, because the court had reached the decision that new trials must be ordered on the one ground that the accused had been denied the right of counsel.

Emphasizing the youth and illiteracy of the men, their lack of friends, and the excitement of the community, Justice Sutherland said it was highly essential that the accused, who were to be considered innocent until convicted should have the benefit of competent counsel from the time of their arrest and arraignment, through their trials.

'Duty Of Trial Court'

It was the duty of the trial court to see that these rights were protected, he said. The trial judge had assigned the whole bar to defend the men, he added, and no lawyer was definitely assigned to represent them until the morning of the trial. This did not permit, he said, proper preparation of the defense.

Justice Butler, speaking also for Justice McReynolds, took issue, insisting that from the time of their first arraignment the men had been represented by counsel, who had discharged their duty. Had there been lack of opportunity for preparation for trial, he said, this counsel would have obtained a postponement, but no such motion was advanced until new counsel was engaged.

Advertiser

In double file, the demonstrators including a considerable number of negroes marched toward the Supreme Court.

Police said that after the dispersal order, one of them hit an officer. The bluecoats quickly advanced on the crowd and most of the demonstrators retreated. A few attempted to resist, however, and were arrested.

11-8-32

Previously a lone policeman, Capt George Walker, had attempted to stop the marchers as they passed the Senate Office Building. He was beaten painfully but returned to duty after first aid treatment. Police said he pulled his revolver but did not use it.

Montgomery, Ala.

Placards borne aloft by the marchers were confiscated by police.

17 Decisions Rendered By High Court Justices

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7.—(AP)—Unperturbed by a conflict outside the Capitol between police and would-be picketers, Supreme Court Justices today announced 17 decisions, including one which ordered the re-trial of seven negroes sentenced to death at Scottsboro, Ala., for attacking two white women.

In its first decision day after a two-week recess, the court sustained the misbranding section of the pure food and drugs act, held that bonus from leases received by owners of oil and gas lands in Texas were subject to the higher rates imposed on ordinary income; refused to set aside the lease by the New York Central of the Big Four, the Michigan Central and the Chicago, Kalamazoo and Saginaw Railroads and emphasized in a case from Newport, Ky., that private residences could be lawfully searched under the prohibition law only upon evidence of the illegal sale of liquor.

It also declared in a case from Chicago, brought by Jack Gebardi, that an indictment against him and Louise Rolfe—who alibied him out of the St. Valentine Day massacre and who afterwards married him—charging them with conspiracy to violate the Mann act must be considered the victim, unable legally to conspire to violate it.

The court dismissed seven appeals on technicalities before hearing them on their merits, entertained appeals in four, granted reviews in three cases, and refused to review in 31.

Among these it refused to order Federal District Judge Taylor of Eastern Tennessee to call a three-judge Federal Court to pass on the validity of the Tennessee congressional redistricting act, announcing it would be useless as a decision could not be made effective before the elections tomorrow.

Radical Groups Applaud Action Of Supreme Court

NEW YORK, Nov. 7.—(AP)—The action of the United States Supreme Court in granting a new trial to the seven negro defendants in the Scottsboro case was commended today in statements by officials of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the International Labor Defense and the American Civil Liberties Union.

Walter White, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said: "We are especially gratified in that the decision reaffirms the principle and the precedent established in a previous case, the Arkansas riot cases of 1919, carried to the Supreme Court by this association, in which it was ruled that a trial in a court dominated by a mob is not due process of law."

Arthur Garfield Hays, general counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union said:

"Every impartial person familiar with the facts must rejoice at the decision and must accord to the communists the credit for pushing the case to the limit. Unfortunately the fight against injustice is too often left to those who do not believe in our institutions. Certainly this case shows up the respectables."

William L. Patterson, negro, national secretary of the International Labor Defense, said:

"The reversal of the decision in these cases......means that we have forced the Supreme Court to recognize the obvious lynch-law character of the trial at Scottsboro.......The International Labor Defense will now press for an early retrial of the case. We will demand a change of venue from the lynch-ridden town of Scottsboro."

One Of Girls In Case Promises To Testify

HUNTSVILLE, ALA., Nov. 7.—(AP)—Victoria Price, one of the two girls in the Scottsboro case, said late today she would appear in the trial of the seven negroes when they were retried.

The girl, who is employed in a cotton mill here, said Ruby Bates, the other alleged attack victim, also would testify when the trial was called.

Numerous letters were exhibited by the girl who said she had been asked to drop the charges, but did not reveal the identity of the persons making such overtures.

Knight Postpones Reversal Statement

Atty. Gen. Knight declined yesterday to discuss the State's procedure in the Scottsboro cases, until he has read the opinion of the U. S. Supreme Court in which that tribunal has reversed judgment of the Alabama courts in the cases of the seven negroes who were convicted of criminally assaulting two white girls at Scottsboro, Ala., and sentenced to death.

Atty. Gen. Knight stated he would read the decision and rulings as soon as possible, and that later he might make a statement.

The Attorney General personally, represented the State of Alabama in connection with the presnting of appeals in the Scottsboro cases to both the Supreme Court of Alabama and the Supreme Court of the United States.

Venue Change For 7 Negroes Sought

Advertiser

11-9-32

Montgomery Ala.

NEW YORK, Nov. 8—(AP)—William L. Patterson, national secretary of the International Labor Defense, announced today that immediate steps will be taken to obtain a change of venue for the new trial granted seven Scottsboro, Ala., negroes in a decision handed down Monday by the United States Supreme Court.

Patterson said George W. Chamlee, counsel for the International Labor Defense, will move for the change of venue, hoping to have it set for Birmingham, Ala. He added that in the event a change of venue is denied an appeal will be taken.

A move also is to be launched, Patterson said, to have the prisoners released from the death cells so that bail can be set for them."

Alabama Bosses Try to Rush New Scottsboro Trial; Conspire to Prevent a Change of Venue

Daily Worker 11-9-32

New York N.Y.

U. S. Supreme Court Decision Attacks as "Immaterial" Fundamental Rights of Negro Masses Raised by I. L. D.

White and Negro Reformists Aiding Lynchers in New Attempt to Disrupt Mass Defense—Partial Victory Must Be Completed

Right on the heels of the decision of the U. S. Supreme Court reversing the lynch verdicts against seven of the Scottsboro boys, the Alabama courts and their white and Negro reformist allies yesterday launched an attempt to rob the working class of the tremendous, but partial, victory secured by mass pressure on the bosses' courts.

Judge A. E .Hawkins, who handed down the original lynch verdicts, deplored the reversal of the verdicts, and is preparing to rush the boys to a new trial at the first regular term of his court next March. He declared in a lynch incitement statement that now it would be more than ever necessary to call out the militia. Simultaneously the misleaders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People intensified their insidious campaign to disrupt the mass defense and disarm the masses with illusions in the "fairness" and "justice" of the bosses' courts.

Battling for Scottsboro Boys and Negro Rights

STOP LEGAL LYNCH
FREE SCOTTSBORO BOYS!
FREE SCOTTSBORO BOYS!

White and Negro workers fighting shoulder to shoulder in militant demonstration before United States Supreme Court, one hour before the bosses' highest court, under pressure of mass protest throughout whole world, reversed the Alabama lynch verdicts against seven of the nine innocent Negro children. Washington police used gas, clubs and guns against the workers. Picture shows white and Negro workers united in self-defense against police clubs.

Boss Press Revives Lies.

The N. A. A. C. P. campaign was accompanied yesterday by a regular barrage of editorials in the capitalist press which broke its conspiracy of silence on the hideous Scottsboro frame-up to utilize the decision in an attempt to revive the hoary lies of the "integrity" and "impartiality" of the Supreme Court; the New York Times declaring that "it is not often that we see the issue of justice to the lowliest, **and possibly most unworthy** (emphasis ours—Daily Worker), so clearly appearing in an important judicial decision."

The renewed assault by the reformists on the mass defense, the move of Judge Hawkins to rush the new trial and to resist the demand for a change of venuc, emphasize anew the need for further building and extending the mass defense and for substantial immediate financial contributions to the International Labor Defense to push the defense preparations for the new trials.

The Supreme Court carefully narrows down its decision to the question of the Scottsboro court's refusal to permit the boys to consult with their parents or otherwise arrange for their defense. It deliberately brushes aside as "immaterial" the fundamental rights of the Negro people, the issues of the violation of their constitutional rights, raised by the I. L. D. attorneys, such as the exclusion of Negroes from the juries which tried the boys.

Forced to admit that the court in appointing Stephen Roddy and Milo Moody to "defend" the boys was making only an "expansive gesture," and that these attorneys did nothing for the boys, the Supreme Court points the way for the more careful covering up of the lynch verdicts of the courts. It states:

"It is not enough to assume that counsel thus precipitated into the case though there was no defense and exercised their best judgment in proceeding to trial without preparation. Neither they nor the court could say what a prompt and thorough investigation might disclose as to the facts. No attempt was made to investigate. No opportunity to do so was given. Defendants were immediately hurried to trial."

They Are N.A.A.C.P. Lawyers!

It was Roddy and Moody that the N. A. A. C. P. misleaders tried later to force down the throats of the nine Scottsboro boys they had betrayed. All nine of the boys and their parents refused to have anything to do with Roddy and Moody and their N. A. A. C. P. sponsors, but stood solidly by the militant defense policy of the I. L. D.

The militant policy of the I. L. D. is inadvertently admitted in the minority opinion of Justices McReynolds and Butler, who dissented from the majority opinion, and wanted to carry through the lynch verdict at once. These gentlemen in their dissenting opinion say:

"The amended motion for new trial, by counsel who succeeded them (Roddy and Moody), contains the first suggestion that defendants were denied counsel or opportunity to prepare fo rtrial. But neither Mr. Roddy nor Mr. Moody has given any support to that claim."

In their zeal to rush the boys to the electric chair, Justices McReynolds and Butler inadvertently admit the role of Roddy and Moody and the N. A. A. C. P. misleaders as assistant hangmen of American imperialism in its murderous assaults on the Negro people.

The mass campaign for the unconditional release of the boys must now be increased one hundredfold.

Lynchings- 1932

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Alabama.

3696

ALABAMA AWAITS SCOTTSBORO RULING

Excitement Over Appeal for the Convicted Negroes Entirely Outside State.

FAULTS SEEN IN DEFENSE

Intimidation of Jury, If Any, May Have Extended to High Court of Commonwealth.

N.Y. Times

By JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES II.

Editorial Correspondence, THE NEW YORK TIMES.

5/1/32

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., April 28.—When the Supreme Court of Alabama, with its chief justice alone dissenting, confirmed last March death sentences for seven of the eight Negroes convicted at Scottsboro of criminal assault on two white girls, there was no such applause from Alabama folk as the public elsewhere may have been led to expect. On the contrary, there came from many quarters, including the editorial pages of Birmingham newspapers, expressions of frank regret that the court had failed to permit a new trial. From many other quarters came no expressions at all, and in the silence was spelled a certain hands-off attitude that refused to judge either way a case so confused with passion, propaganda and circumstance.

Now that a stay of sentence from May 13 to June 24 has been granted in order that appeal to the United States Supreme Court may be prepared, there is little or no discussion here of the thing in any phase. One contention on which the appeal will be based will probably be that in the trial at Scottsboro the defendants were deprived of their rights under the Fourteenth Amendment because no Negroes were included in the jury panels. Another will certainly be that the jury was intimidated by a hostile mob surrounding the court house. Whatever weight these two contentions may have in law, it has often been pointed out that the second one invalidates the first as an actual prejudice to the defendants at Scottsboro. If, as the defense contends, the jury of white men was intimidated, any Negro who might have been allowed on that jury would have been likely to have been even more intimidated.

Intimidation of Court Hinted.

Alabama Supreme Court decisions are respected by the people of the State and are believed to be free of any of the bias or passion which inevitably enters into jury decisions when public feeling is aroused. Yet there are some Alabamians who are willing to whisper that, subconsciously, the State Supreme Court may have been as influenced by intimidation of one sort in its decision last March at Montgomery as the trial jury was possibly influenced by intimidation of another sort in its own decision at Scottsboro a year earlier.

The mob reported as surging around the court house in hostility to the defendants at Scottsboro was no more violent and considerably less directly threatening, they say, than the flood of telegrams, letters and newspaper interviews from all over the world demanding that the Supreme Court order a new trial for the condemned Negroes. These "intimidating" messages, it is suggested, may possibly have influenced the Supreme Court members to so determined a resolve not to be intimidated that thev leaned unconsciously backward against what they considered attempts to push them to a decision favorable to the defendants.

Conscious of Disturbance.

Unlikely as it seems that the judicial calm in which Alabama's Supreme Court operates could have been disturbed in this manner, it is true that the court was conscious of the hue and cry all over the world about this case. On the first day of the hearings for a retrial Chief Justice Anderson recognized this clamor with an emphatic and rather unprecedented statement that attempts to browbeat and bulldoze the court would have no influence upon the decision. And after the decision was made, when telegrams of a minatory and insulting nature began to pour in upon the justices from all parts of the world; Attorney General Knight went so far as to threaten Montgomery telegraph offices with contempt if deliveries were not stopped.

If there is any unanimity of opinion in Alabama on the Scottsboro case it lies in the belief that the condemned Negroes have not been helped by the sort of interference that has come from outside. The case is being contrasted in this respect with that against another Negro, Willie Peterson, who is charged with the killing of two young Birmingham white girls last Fall. Although this killing shocked the whole State and the defendant was positively identified by a sister of one of the girls, who was present when the crime was committed, the trial was conducted without public demonstration or disorder of any sort, and a mistrial was declared when the jury failed to agree after considering the case for more than forty-three hours. On a second trial, staged in an atmosphere as orderly as the first, Peterson was convicted. His lawyers appealed and the case is now on the calendar of the Alabama Supreme Court.

APPEAL FILED TO SAVE NINE ALABAMA BOYS

~~Afro~~

Scottsboro Case Goes to Highest Court

Chicago Defender

5/7/32

NEW YORK, April 29.—In spite of all attempts to rush the legal murders of the nine Scottsboro boys, the Alabama supreme court was forced to grant a stay of execution from the set date, May 13, to June 24 to permit Scottsboro defense counsel to argue the appeal before the United States supreme court.

Mass protests pouring in from all over the country and from many foreign lands have frightened the lynch court into giving the stay of execution in spite of the powerful resistance of the most reactionary forces. This victory has been made possible only by the determined fight of the International Labor Defense and its defense counsel, George W. Chamlee and Irving Schwab, and thousands of workers' protests such as the following, passed at a mass meeting in Seattle, Wash.:

Letter to Governor

To Gov. B. M. Miller and the supreme court of Alabama: We, the workers and sympathizers gathered in meeting at Ranier and Atlantic Sts., Seattle, Wash., on this day, April 15, hold you responsible for the lives of the innocent Scottsboro Negro boys, whom you have condemned to be legally lynched. We see in your murderous attack on these boys, symbol of the exploitation of the Negro masses, a drive to force still lower the standard of living of the workers, white as well as Negro—an attempt to make us submit meekly to unemployment, wage cuts and mass slavery.

We therefore pledge ourselves to intensify and broaden our fight to save the lives of the Scottsboro boys as a vital part of our fight against exploitation and police terror and for the release of all class-war prisoners. We shall not allow ourselves to be intimidated by the lynch verdict of the boss-class courts, instruments of capitalist oppression. Our answer to your murderous ruling is, "The Scottsboro boys shall not die!"

(Signed)

WESLEY EVEREST BRANCH,
INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE, SEATTLE, WASH.

Wesley Everest was a militant organizer of the I. W. W. who was murdered by a mob after defending the I. W. W. hall, togther with other workers, in Seattle.

Mother of Two Condemned Boys Sails for Europe

~~Afro~~

Chicago Defender

5/7/32

NEW YORK, April 29.—Mrs. Ada Wright, mother of Roy and Andy Wright, two of the nine boys sentenced to death at Scottsboro, Ala., sailed for Europe last week on the Albert Ballin to try to convince European audiences of the innocence of her sons and their codefendants.

She will be gone about three months and will speak in the principal cities of several countries. Her trip is being sponsored by the International Red Aid, a German organization affiliated with the International Labor Defense of this country, which has been mustering public sentiment here in an effort to win a reversal of the conviction.

NEW YORK TIMES

MAY 1 1932

ALABAMA AWAITS SCOTTSBORO RULING

Excitement Over Appeal for the Convicted Negroes Entirely Outside State.

FAULTS SEEN IN DEFENSE

Intimidation of Jury, If Any, May Have Extended to High Court of Commonwealth.

By JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES II.

Editorial Correspondence, THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., April 28.—When the Supreme Court of Alabama, with its chief justice alone dissenting, confirmed last March death sentences for seven of the eight Negroes convicted at Scottsboro of criminal assault on two white girls, there was no such applause from Alabama folk as the public elsewhere may have been led to expect. On the contrary, there came from many quarters, including the editorial pages of Birmingham newspapers, expressions of frank regret that the court had failed to permit a new trial. From many other quarters came no expressions at all, and in the silence was spelled a certain hands-off attitude that refused to judge either way a case so confused with passion, propaganda and circumstance.

Now that a stay of sentence from May 13 to June 24 has been granted in order that appeal to the United States Supreme Court may be prepared, there is little or no discussion here of the thing in any phase. One contention on which the appeal will be based will probably be that in the trial at Scottsboro the defendants were deprived of their rights under the Fourteenth Amendment because no Negroes were included in the jury panels. Another will certainly be that the jury was intimidated by a hostile mob surrounding the court house. Whatever weight these two contentions may have in law, it has often been pointed out that the second one invalidates the first as an actual prejudice to the defendants at Scottsboro. If, as the defense contends, the jury of white men was intimidated, any Negro who might have been allowed on that jury would have been likely to have been even more intimidated.

Intimidation of Court Hinted.

Alabama Supreme Court decisions are respected by the people of the State and are believed to be free of any of the bias or passion which inevitably enters into jury decisions when public feeling is aroused. Yet there are some Alabamians who are willing to whisper that, subconsciously, the State Supreme Court may have been as influenced by intimidation of one sort in its decision last March at Montgomery as the trial jury was possibly influenced by intimidation of another sort in its own decision at Scottsboro a year earlier.

The mob reported as surging around the court house in hostility to the defendants at Scottsboro was no more violent and considerably less directly threatening, they say, than the flood of telegrams, letters and newspaper interviews from all over the world demanding that the Supreme Court order a new trial for the condemned Negroes. These "intimidating" messages, it is suggested, may possibly have influenced the Supreme Court members to so determined a resolve not to be intimidated that thev leaned unconsciously backward against what they considered attempts to push them to a decision favorable to the defendants.

Conscious of Disturbance.

Unlikely as it seems that the judicial calm in which Alabama's Supreme Court operates could have been disturbed in this manner, it is true that the court was conscious of the hue and cry all over the world about this case. On the first day of the hearings for a retrial Chief Justice Anderson recognized this clamor with an emphatic and rather unprecedented statement that attempts to browbeat and bulldoze the court would have no influence upon the decision. And after the decision was made, when telegrams of a minatory and insulting nature began to pour in upon the justices from all parts of the world, Attorney General Knight went so far as to threaten Montgomery telegraph offices with contempt if deliveries were not stopped.

If there is any unanimity of opinion in Alabama on the Scottsboro case it lies in the belief that the condemned Negroes have not been helped by the sort of interference that has come from outside. The case is being contrasted in this respect with that against another Negro, Willie Peterson, who is charged with the killing of two young Birmingham white girls last Fall. Although this killing shocked the whole State and the defendant was positively identified by a sister of one of the girls, who was present when the crime was committed, the trial was conducted without public demonstration or disorder of any sort, and a mistrial was declared when the jury failed to agree after considering the case for more than forty-three hours. On a second trial, staged in an atmosphere as orderly as the first, Peterson was convicted. His lawyers appealed and the case is now on the calendar of the Alabama Supreme Court.

OPENS WAY FOR ALABAMA CASE

Guardian

ALA. SUPREME COURT DENIES MOTION FOR A REHEARING OF SCOTTSBORO CASE—NOW TO U. S. SUPREME COURT

4-16-32

Montgomery, Ala., April 14, 1932—(ANP)—An open door to the United States Supreme Court was left by the Alabama Supreme Court Saturday, when it denied the motion for a rehearing, made on behalf of the seven boys convicted of rape and condemned to death at Scottsboro last April. The application for a rehearing was made through attorneys of the International Labor Defense in March after the State Supreme Court had denied the motion for a new trial and set May 13th as the date of execution.

Boston, Mass.

It is understood now that the I. L. D. will speedily place the case before the United States Supreme Court their battery of lawyers being led by Irving Pollack, a former associate of Associate Justice Cardozo.

Scottsboro Propagandists Run To Supreme Court

Advertiser

WASHINGTON, May 11.—(AP)—Propaganda in behalf of the six negroes under sentence of death at Scottsboro, Ala., for criminal assault, is bringing letters to the Supreme Court from European countries as well as Canada and Cuba.

The letters contain a protest against execution.

5-12-32

While a record of the proceedings in the Alabama courts which resulted in the death penalty has been lodged with the clerk of the court, no petition has been received from the men seeking a review of their conviction. Unless it can be presented to the court by May 23, it will be impossible for any action to be taken by the court in the matter during the present term.

Montgomery, Ala.

The execution is set for June 24.

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12 SHOT AT SCOTTSBORO GERMAN MEET

Daily Worker

5-10-32

New York, N.Y.

One Worker Dead, Two Are Critically Wounded

BULLETIN

CHEMNITZ, Germany, May 9.—One of the workers shot down by police at the Scottsboro demonstration last Saturday died this morning. Two others are critically wounded. Twelve workers were wounded by the police, when the latter fired into a peaceful demonstration protesting the frame-up of the Scottsboro Negro boys and demanding their release.

The United States Embassy in Berlin, and United Stataes Consulates throughout Germany, were guarded day and night on Saturday by German police. In spite of the police attacks, huge demonstrations were held throughout Germany.

* * *

NEW YORK.—A Hamburg cable to the International Labor Defense reports that the Socialist officials of Hamburg, Germany, prohibited Mrs. Ada Wright, mother of two of the Scottsboro Negro boys, and J. Louis Engdahl from addressing the May 7 Scottsboro demonstration in that city. By this act the German "Socialists" line themselves up with the American "Socialists" and the Negro reformists in support of the attempt of the American ruling class to burn the nine Scottsboro Negro boys in the electric chair on June 24.

But the social-fascist prohibition against Mrs. Wright and Engdahl could not obliterate the fact of the mighty gathering of workers which met Mrs. Wright and Engdahl when they arrived inHamburg on May 5. Nor could theprohibition obliterate the fact that thousands of Hamburg workers demonstrated on May 7 in the presence of Mrs. Wright and Engdahl, militantly demonstrating their support of the international mass fight to free the Scottsboro boys, and their firm solidarity with the Negro masses of this country oppressed and persecuted by American imperialism.

The cable to the I. L. D. stataes that Mrs. Wright and Engdahl were scheduled to speak in various places in the Ruhr industrial district over the weekend, along with prominent German revolutionary leaders. Whether the "socialist" politicans dared to deny the right of free speech at these meetings has not yet been learned. I tis certain that the workers of Germany are militantly supporting the mass fight to free the Scottsboro boys, and that they will demand that the mother of two of these boys, and the I. L. D. official be allowed to address the immense crowds turning out in their honor.

Mrs. Wright was invited to Germany by the German Red Aid, a section of the International Red Aid with which the International Labor Defense is affiliated. She will speak along with Comrade Engdahl, in all the principal cities of Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Switzerland France and England in connection with the international mass defense of the Scottsboro boys.

MUST HURRY U.S. SUPREME COURT PLEA

Journal and Guide

Failure Of I. L. D. To File Appeal By May 23, Means Death

5-14-32

DELAY UNEXPLAINED

Norfolk, Va.

Ala. Death Row Guards Taunt 14-Year-Old Prisoner

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — No time can now be lost by the International Labor Defense in its efforts to prevent the execution of the seven boys condemned to death at Scottsboro, Ala., after being convicted of an attack on two white girls.

When the Alabama Supreme Court denied the appeal of attorneys of the I. L. D., for new trials for seven of the boys, May 13 was set as the date of execution.

The boys' attorneys then let it be known that they intended to file a motion for review before the Supreme Court of the United States and the execution date was set forward to June 24.

However, the motion for review must be presented by May 23 or it will do no good, and the boys will go to their deaths without their appeals ever reaching the highest American tribunal. The Supreme Court will receive no motions during its present term after May 23 and will end the term May 31.

If the motion of the I. L. D. attorneys were delayed, the Scottsboro boys would suffer the same fate as Sacco and Vanzetti, the Italian radicals. A motion in their behalf was filed while the U. S. Supreme Court was in summer recess, but before the motion could be considered at the October term of the court, the two men had been executed.

Only Records Filed

Although the records of the Scottsboro case have been deposited with the clerk of the U. S. Supreme Court, no notice of an appeal in the case has been filed up to Monday by International Labor Defense lawyers representing the boys. It was pointed out that unless an appeal is noted by May 23, it will not serve as a stay of execution.

Williams In Death Cell

Fourteen-year-old Eugene Williams, one of the nine Negro Scottsboro boys, and the only one whose sentence of death was reversed on March 24th by the Alabama Su-

(Continued on Page 15)

MUST HURRY SCOTTSBORO BOYS' PLEA

Journal and Guide

preme Court, is still being terrorized in the death cell at Kilby prison. He, along with seven other innocent Scottsboro boys, is being constantly taunted by prison guards with such words as "Your turn will soon come," the I. L. D. asserted in a statement to the Journal and Guide this week.

5-14-32

Irving Schwab, I. L. D. attorney one of the lawyers who is preparing to appeal to the United State Supreme Court, applied to have Eugene Williams transferred to Birmingham where Roy Wright, the ninth boy is being held.

Norfolk, Va.

Strange Alabama Law

Officials refused to comply with Schwab's request, but told him to see Judge Hawkins, the same judge who sentenced the boy.

Further investigation by Schwab revealed that, according to Alabama law, this boy must remain in the death cell even after the decision in his case was reversed by the Alabama Supreme Court, until the Scottsboro probate judge orders his removal.

Williams has now been in the death cell for over 40 days since that decision—with no conviction of any crime remaining on the record. He is being tortured there—a fourteen year old child—while still waiting trial.

SCOTTSBORO SHERIFF SHOT

SCOTTSBORO, Ala—(A N P)—Sheriff M. L. Wann of Jackson County, the Scottsboro sheriff who gained preminence for protecting from mob violence the Scottsboro boys, was shot to death here and search was started for Harry Hambrick, white, 21 years old, charged with the killing. Sheriff Wann went to Hambrick's residence to arrest him for vagrancy.

Sheriff Wann and a handful of deputies turned back an angry mob which surrounded the jail here following the arrest of the Scottsboro victims nearly a year ago after they were removed from a freight train near Fort Payne, until they were reinforced by Alabama National Guardsmen ordered out by the governor.

AKRON, O.
TIMES PRESS
NOV 8 [illegible]

The Scottsboro Decision

NONE can read without elation the Supreme court's 7-to-2 decision granting new trials to the seven Negro boys sentenced to death for alleged assault in the Scottsboro affair.

Here was not only even-handed equity for those of an exploited race, but rebuke for those who pervert the courts of the land as instruments for race and class intimidation.

There is nobility in these words read by Justice Sutherland:

"However guilty the defendants on due inquiry might prove to have been, they were, until convicted, presumed to be innocent. It was the duty of the courts having cases in charge to see that they were denied no necessary incident of fair trial."

Such justice the seven judges found has been denied by the Alabama trial court. The Negro boys were denied time and opportunity to obtain adequate counsel. The trial "from beginning to end took place in an atmosphere of tense, hostile and excited public sentiment." That they were "ignorant and illiterate" strangers, and stood "in deadly peril of their lives," made the court's duty to protect their rights more imperative.

It was unfortunate that Communists sought to picket the Supreme court prior to reading of the decision. Their demonstration of course had no effect, since the opinion had been reached some days before. The same cannot be said for the picketing mob which helped to turn the original Alabama trial into a virtual court lynching.

The Supreme court found that the defendants had been denied due process under the 14th Amendment. "To hold otherwise," it concluded, "would be to ignore the fundamental postulate, already adverted to 'that there are certain immutable principles of justice which inhere in the very idea of free government which no member of the union may disregard'."

This decision should be a warning to the lower courts, especially of the south, that the Negro race still is protected by the Constitution of the United States.

Alabama

Lynchings-1932
&
Legal Punishment for Rape.

3697

NEW YORK TIMES

NOV 8 1932

SCOTTSBORO RULING EVOKES PRAISE HERE

Those Who Supported Cause of Seven Negroes Call It Best Type of American Justice.

FREEDOM URGED FOR GROUP

Roger N. Baldwin, Asserting Case Is "Flimsy," Says They Could Not Get a Fair Trial in Alabama.

The action of the United States Supreme Court in ordering a new trial for the seven Negro defendants in the Scottsboro case was praised here yesterday by persons who had taken an active interest in the case as in accord with the best type of American justice.

Walter H. Pollak, attorney, who argued the case before the Supreme Court on Oct. 10, had contended that the seven defendants had not had a fair trial before they were convicted of having taken part in an assault upon two white girls and sentenced to death under the Alabama law governing such cases. Among the reasons he alleged were "mob domination" of the court proceedings, the absence of Negroes from the trial jury and failure to obtain a jury known to be free from race prejudice.

The case had attracted international attention since the convictions because of the interest taken in it by liberals and because of demonstrations by Communist groups, who demanded the release of the defendants.

Statements of those who commented on the case referred to the fact that the Supreme court had laid down a similar principle of law in an earlier case, usually referred to as that of the Arkansas riots.

The comments were:

WALTER WHITE, Executive Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is elated at the Supreme Court decision granting a new trial in the Scottsboro cases. We are especially gratified that the decision reaffirms the principle and precedent established in a previous case, the [illegible] cases of 1919, carried to the Supreme Court by this association, in which it was ruled that a trial in a court dominated by a mob is not due process of law. It is hoped that prejudice from either side may be kept out of the retrial in Alabama and that the innocence of the defendants, of which we are convinced, may be clearly established.

MORRIS L. ERNST, attorney actively connected with many civil liberties cases—I expected the decision after the decision in the Arkansas riot cases. I think that I should comment also on the indifference to politics shown by the court in handing down its decision just before election.

ROGER N. BALDWIN, director of the American Civil Liberties Union—The plain fact of the trial in the midst of a mob of 10,000 around the court house, held in check by State troops, convinced everybody except the Alabama Supreme Court that the Scottsboro boys did not have a fair trial. Although courts are presumed not to know what everybody else knows, the United States Supreme Court could not have come fairly to any other decision. If the Alabama officials will now recognize the flimsy case against the boys they will now release them on bail and forget another trial. Considering the nature of the charges these boys can never get a fair trial in Alabama.

ARTHUR GARFIELD HAYS, general counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union—The decision of the Supreme Court in the Scottsboro case marks the second occasion in which that court has reversed State tribunals in connection with a criminal case. The other decision, due to an unfair trial, also concerned Negroes. Every impartial person familiar with the facts must rejoice at the decision and must accord to the Communists the credit for pushing the case to the limit. Unfortunately the fight against injustice is too often left to those who do not believe in our institutions. Certainly this case shows up the respectables. What will influence the Southern court is no mere evidence of innocence, although the innocence had been proved completely. What will free the Scottsboro boys is the same thing that has forced the Supreme Court to grant them a new trial—mass pressure and mass protest.

BROOKLYN CITIZEN

NOV 8 1932

THE SCOTTSBORO CASE

The Supreme Court of the United States has ordered a new trial for the seven Negroes who were condemned to death at Scottsboro, Ala., after having been found guilty on charges of attacking two white girls

Seven members of the court agreed in the opinion, written by Justice Sutherland, which stated that the Negroes had been denied the right of counsel. Two members of the court, Justices Butler and McReynolds, dissented, saying that the youths had not been deprived of any of their Constitutional rights in the Alabama court.

The case has attracted wide attention and interest in the outcome was intense. Radicals contended that the Negro youths were "railroaded" through the Alabama courts, and there was a mob in Washington awaiting the decision of the Supreme Court.

The court stated that the attitude of the community in which the trial was held was one of great hostility to the defendants

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N. Y. SUN

NOV 8 1932

Their Day in Court.

It is not necessary to read the entire opinion of the majority of the Supreme Court in the Scottsboro case to understand the idea upon which it is based: The Negro defendants did not have their day in court in the true sense of that phrase. "The failure of the trial court to give them reasonable time and opportunity to secure counsel was a clear denial of due process"—that is the heart of the decision. The outcome of this case, which has been somewhat clouded by communist and other agitators who sought to make capital out of it, is in effect only an iteration of the principles of justice. The innocence or guilt of the defendants was not at issue before the court.

Incidentally, it may interest the intelligentsia who are so fond of classifying Supreme Court Justices as "conservatives" and "liberals" to note that the prevailing opinion was written by Mr. Justice SUTHERLAND, who has always been labeled conservative by those who think that the men of our highest bench need to be tagged.

NEW YORK WORLD Telegram

NOV 8 1932

NEGROES APPEAL RARE AS REBUKE OF STATE BY U. S.

Alabama Taken to Task in Order to Retry Negroes Doomed for Assault.

COUNSEL HELD DENIED

Liberals Praise Decision as Evidence of True Brand of American Justice.

By Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 8.—Seldom has a State ever been rebuked by the United States Supreme Court as was Alabama yesterday in the Scottsboro decision ordering a retrial of seven Negro boys sentenced to death for assaulting two white girls.

Appointment of the whole Scottsboro bar by the trial court as their counsel was called by the Supreme Court "little more than an empty gesture imposing no substantial or definite obligation on any one."

The Supreme Court found that "in the light of the facts . . . the ignorance and illiteracy of the defendants, their youth, the circumstances of public hostility, the imprisonment and close surveillance of the defendants by the military forces, the fact that their friends and families were all in other States and communication with them necessarily difficult and, above all, that they stood in deadly peril of their lives—we think the failure of the trial coart to give them a reasonable time and opportunity to secure counsel was a clear denial of due process."

Liberals Praise Re-Trial Order.

The Scottsboro decision was praised by leading liberals today as the best type of American justice.

"Every impartial person familiar with the facts must rejoice at the decision and must accord to the Communists the credit for pushing the case to the limit," said non-Communist Arthur Garfield Hays, general counsel of the American Civil Liberties Union.

"Mass pressure and mass protest," he said was the only way to free the Negroes.

"The plain fact of the trial in the midst of a mob of 10,000 around the Court House, held in check by State troops, convinced everybody except the Alabama Supreme Court that the Scottsboro boys did not have a fair trial," said Roger N. Baldwin, director of the Civil Liberties Union.

Walter White, executive secretary of the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People, from whom the case was "captured" by the Communists, said that the decision "reaffirms the principle and precedent" established by the court's decision in the Arkansas riot cases of 1919 that "trial in a court dominated by a mob is not due process of law."

Morris L. Ernst, attorney, praised the decision and called attention to "the indifference to politics shown by the court in handing down its decision just before election."

ANNISTON, ALA.
STAR

NOV 8 1932

SUPREME COURT DECISION IN THE SCOTTSBORO CASE

Alabamians generally regret that the United States Supreme Court has found it advisable to order new trials for the seven negroes convicted in Scottsboro of criminal assault and sentenced to death. They regret that it will be necessary to go through the ordeal of another trial; that feelings that had subsided to some extent must be aroused again, and that the State of Alabama also must once more go on trial in the eyes of the outside world.

However, the highest court of the land has spoken and Alabama can only follow the mandates of that honored tribunal. Alabama is as anxious as any other state or group of people to see that justice is done in each and every case tried within her borders, whether the persons charged with crime be white or black, and we maintain faith in the integrity of our state courts, believing that they endeavor to see that all who come before them are given the full benefits of their rights under the law, regardless of their race, condition or circumstances. Since our people desire that everyone placed on trial be given all legal opportunity to prove his innocence, they cannot do anything except follow the direction of higher courts and demonstrate beyond all doubt that this has been done in the case in question.

In ordering new trials, the Supreme Court based its action on what it believed to be evidence that the negroes had not received all the consideration to which they were entitled. It was stated that apparently the defendants were not provided adequate legal representation and that was held to be sufficient reason for granting a retrial. As we have stated, Alabama is desirous of giving a fair trial in this case, as in all others, and cannot do otherwise now than go about correcting any omissions that may have occurred the first time and give evidence to the world that it is fair in its dealings with all.

While The Star differed with the majority in Alabama to the effect that the defendants were granted a fair and impartial trial at Scottsboro, the Supreme Court of Alabama sustained that view, holding that there was no evidence that prejudice had entered into the decision of the trial court and that it had fulfilled all the requirements of the law. But the Supreme Court of the nation has reversed that decision, ruling that there was a lack of provision for the defense of the accused negroes, and Alabama can only abide by that order.

The most regrettable feature of the situation is that outsiders will take this as an indication that the Alabama courts were not diligent in their efforts to provide an impartial trial or that the decision was based on prejudice. The forces seeking to undermine the foundations of stable government will hail it as a victory for their cause, and yet it is but an indorsement of Chief Justice Anderson of Alabama, who held in a minority opinion that sufficient counsel had not been granted the defendants.

CLEVELAND, O.
PRESS

NOV 8 1932

The Scottsboro Decision

NONE can read without elation the Supreme Court's 7 to 2 decision granting new trials to the seven Negro boys sentenced to hang for alleged assault in the Scottsboro affair.

Here are not only even-handed equity for those of an exploited race, but rebuke for those who pervert the courts of the land as instruments for race and class intimidation.

There is nobility in these words read by Justice Sutherland:

"However guilty the defendants on due inquiry might prove to have been, they were, until convicted, presumed to be innocent. It was the duty of the courts having their cases in charge to see that they were denied no necessary incident of fair trial."

Such justice the seven judges found has been denied by the Alabama trial court. The Negro boys were denied time and opportunity to obtain adequate counsel. The trial "from beginning to end took place in an atmosphere of tense, hostile and excited public sentiment." That they were "ignorant and illiterate" strangers, and stood "in deadly peril of their lives," made the court's duty to protect their rights more imperative.

The Supreme Court found that the defendants had been denied due process under the 14th amendment. "To hold otherwise," it concluded, "would be to ignore the fundamental postulate, already adverted to 'that there are certain immutable principles of justice which inhere in the very idea of free government which no member of the Union may disregard.'"

This decision should be a warning to the lower courts, especially of the south, that the Negro race still is protected by the constitution of the United States.

KANSAS CITY, MO.
STAR

NOV 8 1932

The Supreme Court Intervenes.

The disturbing suspicion that seven Negroes were condemned to death for alleged assaults upon two white girls near Scottsboro, Ala., without a fair trial, has been confirmed by the action of the United States supreme court in ordering all of the cases back to the state courts for retrial. Defenders of the convicted men have argued that they were denied the most elementary justice—that they were refused a change of venue, despite the inflamed state of public opinion in the community, and were forced to trial under such a threat of mob violence that the authorities felt it necessary to call out the national guard.

In ordering a retrial, the supreme court has laid its emphasis upon the way in which the men were denied proper counsel and the lack of time allowed for the preparation of their cases. The highest federal tribunal is not in the habit of interfering in criminal cases handled by the state courts unless there seems to be evidence of substantial injustice, which in these cases reached the state supreme court.

The demonstration on the capitol grounds at Washington yesterday, at the time the supreme court decision was being announced, illustrates the other side of the agitation that has tended to confuse justice. This demonstration was "inspired to some extent by Communists," the Associated Press reports. The Communist interference from the early stages of the cases has been held to be harmful by responsible Negro welfare organizations. When Norman Thomas, Socialist presidential candidate, was in Kansas City last summer he remarked that the Socialists had refused to join with the Communists in an attempt evidently directed to obtaining political advantage rather than justice in the Scottsboro affair.

It may be hoped the new trials of these men may be conducted without the prejudice rebuked by the federal court, and without confusing outside interference either for or against them.

Taste of Democracy

Photo shows a worker enjoying free speech, democracy, etc., in the capitalist U.S.A. The sergeant has a gas pipe in his hand and the other cop is choking the worker. Scene during the "Free Scottsboro Boys" demonstration before the U. S. Supreme Court.

DAYTON, O.
NEWS

NOV 9 1932

The Scottsboro Case

On a freight train in Alabama, riding as vagrants, were several Negro men and two white women. At the end of the trip the women made charges of mistreatment against the men. The men were prosecuted in the midst of great local excitement and hostility and seven of them were sentenced to die. Were they fairly tried?

The case became, like that of Mooney and of Sacco and Vanzetti, a subject of public interest from the two usual points of view. It seemed to many persons who are jealous of the rightness of American justice that the circumstances of the conviction made it substantially a matter of mob law. Communists, primarily interested in opportunities for making trouble, exerted themselves in the usual way to stir the matter up. When the resources of the defense had been exhausted in Alabama, appeal was made to the federal supreme court.

Evidently taking advantage of a technicality, the court by a majority of seven to two decides that the defendants were deprived of their constitutional rights and a new trial is ordered. The decision is an occasion for satisfaction. The Scottsboro case as the press reports have carried the facts has had a peculiar look. Another trial, not accompanied by the manifestations of public passion which characterized the first seems clearly a desirable thing. The fact that the supreme court thinks so is a wholesome intimation to localities tempted to let their feelings override the cool, calm processes of justice.

AUBURN, N. Y.
CITIZEN-ADVERTISER

NOV 8 1932

THE SCOTTSBORO CASE.
New York Times.

Yesterday's decision by the Supreme Court ordering a new trial for the seven Negroes under sentence of death in Alabama turned wholly upon "due process of law." The right to it in all matters affecting life and property is guaranteed by the Constitution to the humblest citizen of the United States. Other alleged grounds of appeal were urged upon the Supreme Court, but all of them were brushed aside. Did the convicted youths have a fair trial? That was the question into which the Supreme Court looked painstakingly, assembling all the relevant facts, before it decided in the negative. The opinion was written by Mr. Justice Sutherland, who has often been called the most "reactionary" member of the Supreme Court, so that it cannot be set down to a weak sentimentalism. Neither can it have been due to the outcry in Washington and in other cities, as well as in Moscow and by European Communists, asserting that a spirit of wicked class prejudice pervades the United States, and that here no justice can be had for the poor and ignorant. Taking no notice of all this, the Supreme Court, with only two judges dissenting, found that the ordinary methods of a fair trial had not been followed in the State courts, and that therefore a new trial, under proper safeguards, must be given the seven Negroes. Nothing was said one way or the other about their guilt or innocence. Only, if they were guilty, the fact must be proved by fair and equitable procedure in court.

However people may feel about the case itself, there will be, we believe, general approval of the lofty position taken by the majority of the Supreme Court. That great tribunal appears once more as mindful of human rights. Of its jurisdiction it may be said, in the well-known words of Hooker praising the ideal of law, that the least may feel that they are under its care, just as the greatest may know that they are not exempt from its power. It is not often that we see the issue of justice to the lowliest, and possibly most unworthy, so clearly appearing in an important judicial decision. It ought to abate the rancor of extreme radicals, while confirming the faith of the American people in the soundness of their institutions and especially in the integrity of their courts.

Lynchings - 1932
6
Legal Punishment cov[illegible]

Alabama

3698

NEW LIGHT ON "DUE PROCESS OF LAW"

Journal and guide

11-12-32

Norfolk, Va.

SEVEN justices of the United States Supreme Court agreed Monday that the eight youths condemned to die at Scottsboro, Ala. for alleged assaults on two white girls have not had fair trials, two members of the court dissenting. The decision reversing the Alabama Supreme Court marks another milestone in the slow but inevitable course of judicial interpretation of the rights of American citizens, regardless of race or color, and gives rise to a new hope, a stronger faith, in the ultimate realization of true justice in this land of the free and home of the brave.

All the circumstances surrounding the apprehension, trial, and conviction of those eight boys raised a strong suspicion from the outset that the courts of Alabama would not give them a fair trial. Those circumstances are too generally well known to require restatement now. So shocking were they to the sense of decency and justice that two great organizations whose aim it is to champion the oppressed took up the fight to have those trials reviewed by the highest tribunal of the land. Finding it impossible to make certain concessions in policy and procedure demanded of it, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was obliged to withdraw and leave the fight to agencies of the International Labor Defense, Communist organization for the protection of workers of the world.

* * * *

The chief contention of I. L. D. attorneys was that these boys had been found guilty and sentenced to die in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution which provides that no state shall "deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law." For more than half a century the U. S. Supreme Court has been called upon to decide what is or is not "due process of law." No other four words in the entire Constitution or the nineteen Amendments thereto have been the subject of so much judicial construction. The full scope of "due process of law" has never been decided and probably never will be, but through the gradual process of inclusion and exclusion, as former Chief Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes has said, its limits eventually will be substantially ascertained.

The Scottsboro decision is another important step in that process of determination. It definitely lays down the doctrine that the right to have counsel from the moment a citizen is put under arrest until his last right of appeal has expired is a sacred and inalienable right protected by the "due process of law" clause. The court penetrates the sham supplied by the trial court in appointing the entire bar to defend the youths and concludes that the failure of the judge definitely to assign any particular attorney until the morning of the trial was a substantial denial of their right of counsel. The right is real, and unless the trial judge preserves it in substance as well as in form, he violates the Federal Constitution, supreme law of the land. It is encouraging to find that our court of last resort is jealously safeguarding the letter and the spirit of these constitutional guarantees.

* * * *

There were other issues raised by the appeal but the court found it unnecessary to decide them since the violation mentioned was ample reason for granting a new trial. It would have been interesting and of great moment had the court decided whether a trial conducted in an atmosphere of mob spirit as were the Scottsboro cases is a fair trial; or whether the method used in Alabama to exclude Negroes from juries is a denial of "equal protection of the laws," also guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment.

But the failure to base its decision on either of those, or other issues raised, does not mean that the Supreme Court has repudiated the contention that they are infractions of Constitutional rights demanding a new trial. They will come up for consideration again, perhaps when the youths are retried, and if an appeal is taken the Supreme Court will look among them for a ground of reversal. Nor does it mean that the highest tribunal has only partially done its job. Courts of last resorts adhere to the policy of deciding no more than they are obliged to, and if a reversal can be granted on any single point in contention, they will not inquire into others.

* * * *

The issue decided in the Scottsboro cases will go down in our judicial history as a crucial victory in the fight for full equality before the law. For that victory we may rightfully thank the N. A. A. C. P. which started the fight, the I. L. D. which carried it through with the aid of the Negro Press, and the seven of the nine justices of the United States Supreme Court who grasped the vision of ultimate social justice notwithstanding the maze of legal technicalities behind which they might have shielded themselves had they not been imbued with that fearless liberalism upon which the Negro race counts heavily in its campaign for full civil and legal equality.

Paris "Reds" Ask Justice For Ala. Boys

Tribune

11-5-32

Philadelphia Pa.

36 Organizations Present Petitions in Their Favor

Many Negro Delegates

Foresee Riots if the Scottsboro Boys Are Condemned

By J. A. ROGERS

Paris — Thirty-six Communists, or Communistically inclined organizations from various parts of France besieged the American Embassy here for a whole day, demanding justice for the Scottsboro boys. Each delegation was recieved separately by a secretary of the Chancellery, and the reception of the petitions took from 9 a. m. to the closing of the Embassy at 5 p. m.

Most of the various trades were represented as well as many women's and youth's organizations against war. The whole proceeding was quiet and dignified; the petitioners made it clear that they felt that the Scottsboro case was a frame-up, that it was the product of color prejudice, and asked the United States to take steps to free the accused youths. One young Communist of the Jeunesse de Secours Rouge International issued a warning that if the boys were not freed that "some day the workers were going to take vengeance."

BOMBING RUMORS DENIED

It was reported in the press here that the Communists had threatened to blow up the American embassy and kill prominent Americans here if the boys were executed, but this was denied.

The delegations were told that they had taken the wrong way to get their petitions heard as the American Embassy here cannot transmit petitions from foreigners; and that the regular way was to present them to the French authorities here who would in turn send them to Washington for transmission to the State Department there. They insisted on leaving the petitions at the embassy, however.

Negroes were liberally represented among the delegates, one of the organizations being the Union des Travailleurs Negres (Union of Negro Workers), composed chiefly of African and West Indian Negroes. Among the delegates were Garan Kouyate, Francois Touray, Emile Dickite, of Africa; and Isidor Alpha of Martinque. The Communist mayor of Bagnolet, a suburb of Paris, was among the petitioners.

WILL DEMAND BOYS' RELEASE

Kouyate, the leader of the Negroes, says that if the Supreme Court upholds the decision, the Negroes in a body, intend going to the Chamber of Deputies and demand of the Socialist government there that it intercede with the American government for the release of the prisoners.

During the reception of the delegates the embassy was closely guarded by a large number of policemen and secret service operators. It is feared all over Europe that should the Scottsboro boys be executed there will be a general rioting as in the Sacco-Vanezetti case. At that time Paris saw one of its worst riots for a c[illegible] Hundreds of policemen were [illegible]ed by the mob, and certain bus[illegible]s, as the Boulevard de Sebas[illegible]oked as if a Kansas cyclone h[illegible]d through them.

Scottsboro Mothers, Cheered by Victory, Send Thanks to ILD, Workers

Daily Worker 11-11-32

Mrs. Montgomery and Mrs. Powell Hail Effective Mass Fight for Boys

Chattanooga I. L. D. Attorney, General George W. Chamlee, Says It's Big Partial Victory

BULLETIN

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 10.—Thirteen persons, including a number of spectators, were sentenced to sixty days by Judge Isaac Hitt in the United States Police Court today for parading in the Scottsboro demonstration last Monday before the U. S. Supreme Court.

Two persons were acquitted. Five of the defendants and one other are also held for trial on charges of assaulting the police. All workers organizations and others interested in the fight to free the innocent Scottsboro boys and against police terror are urged to wire protests to Judge Hitt at once.

New York, N.Y.

* *

NEW YORK.—As world flashed over the world, Monday, of the tremendous partial victory of the working-class in obtaining a new trial fo the Scottsboro boys, the parents of the boys breathed more freely. Mrs Viola Montgomery, mother of Olen Montgomery, and Mrs. Josephine Rowell. mother of Ozie Powell, immediately wrote to William L. Patterson, national secretary of the International Labor Defense expressing through the medium of that organization their gratitude to the workers of the world who are fighting for their boys

Mrs. Powell's letter tells of her desire to go about the country to help raise the large sums of money which will be necessary for the I. L. D. to defend the boys in their new trial. Mrs Montgomery tells of personally selling six hundred cards demanding the release of the Scottsboro boys and addressed to the U. S. Supreme Court within five days immediately preceding announcement of the decision. She saw that they were mailed, too.

Says "Troubles Are Lighter!"

Mrs. Powell's letter says in part:

"Dear Comrade Patterson:

I received your telegram. I don't sleep. I was too happy to sleep last night. I am just so happy I don't know what to do. I want to go some place to help raise money for the boys. If you can just write me in the next letter where I can be sent.

"My troubles are so much lighter this morning. Lighter than they have been for 19 or 20 months. I can never give the I. L. D. and the workers the thanks I want to give them. My heart is too weak, and my nerves are gone. But anyway I thank the I.L.D. with my whole heart and body. I can't stop giving the praise for what you have done for my boy.

"I didn't sleep any last night and I don't want to sleep tonight, for I just want to be happy as I am. I will have to stop here, for I can't tell you how happy I feel this morning over a new trial for the boys.

Josephine Powell."

Will Continue Fight.

Mrs. Montgomery writes in part:

"My Dear Comrade Patterson:

"Just a few lines to let you know I received the telegram tonight. I was so glad to hear that the boys got a new trial. I had already seen the news in the Atlanta World, the Negro paper here. The fight must develop, and I am willing to continue the fight.

"I have been selling the postcards all day to be mailed to the Supreme Court. I have had over 600 mailed from here since last Thursday.

—From Comrade Montgomery at Atlanta, Georgia."

* * *

From Southern Attorney.

General George W. Chamlee, of Chattanooga, one of the I.L.D. attorneys in the case, sent the following telegram:

"Congratulations to the I.L.D. on the new trial for the Scottsboro boys.

"The parents of these boys, as well as the boys themselves, are greatly rejoicing in this victory in the Supreme Court of the United States. This is the greatest fight the ILD has ever made and brought to a successful conclusion, and whatever the future may hold and whatever may be the final outcome in future trials, this trial will stand as a monument to the I.L.D. and its fight for an impartial hearing and legal representation in trials.

Hastily and with best wishes, I am,

Yours truly,

G. W. CHAMLEE."

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visage than that of this poor mother a widow now twelve years, who ha had such great economic difficulties i rearing her five children, and who shivers at the thought that she migh lose one of them simply to pay for th crime of his having a black skin.

ANDY WRIGHT PENS TOUCHING LETTER

"I have rarely read a more touching letter than that written in pencil by Andy Wright from the death house to his mother. This cry of a los child has crossed the Ocean. It resounds in the heart of every mother may it aid in saving from torture these innocent youths. May it, at the same time, animate the hearts of all those who love liberty and justice, and believe in respect for human life, and let them see that slavery still exists in the United States—a slavery as ferocious, as bloody, as pitiless as in the time of Uncle Tom."

As was said, the interest in the Scottsboro case is general, and not confined to the Communists. This writer is often asked by Europeans and sympathetic white American residents here, what the American Negroes, themselves, are doing about the case. He recalls the general lack of interest he found among Negroes in it when last he was in America—at a widely advertised meeting held in New York for instance there were only six Negroes present—and to avoid telling the truth he does not answer.

NEW TRIAL ORDERED BY SUPREME COURT IN SCOTTSBORO CASE

Times 11-8-32

Ruling Finds Seven Negroes Condemned in Alabama Were Denied Right of Counsel.

New York N.Y.

TWO OF 9 JUSTICES DISSENT

Police Wield Clubs Freely on Radicals Attempting to Picket Court Chamber.

MANY HURT, 14 ARRESTED

Alabama Judge Expects New Trial in March—Holds Move for Change of Venue Likely.

Text of Supreme Court decision in Scottsboro case is on Page 12.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7.—New trials were ordered by the Supreme Court today for seven Negroes condemned to death at Scottsboro, Ala., on charges of attacking two white girls.

Seven members of the court joined in the opinion handed down by Justice Sutherland, asserting that the Negroes had been denied the right of counsel. Justices Butler and McReynolds, the other two members of the bench, dissented, saying that the youths had not been deprived of any of their constitutional rights in the Alabama court.

An hour before the decision was announced, Capitol and metropolitan policemen and corps of detectives vigorously wielding clubs, had driven 100 Communists and other radica demonstrators off the plaza at the East front of the Capitol. Tear gas and clubs were used to quell the Reds, many of whom were injured. Their banners were torn up, and fourteen of them were arrested.

In contrast to this stormy scene the Supreme Court chamber was clothed in its customary dignity as the opinion was read. Not a whisper disturbed the solemnity. Present were many sympathizers with the Scottsboro defendants.

World Radicals Await Decision.

Interest in the outcome was intense. Like the Sacco-Vanzetti and Mooney cases, the Scottsboro trials have attracted world-wide attention among radicals, who contend that the Negro youths were "railroaded" through the Alabama courts. Foreign capitals, notably Moscow, where the Soviet celebrated its fifteenth anniversary, eagerly awaited the Supreme Court's decision.

Critical language was used by Justice Sutherland in his opinion. At one point he recited the dialogue between the judge in an Alabama court and prospective counsel for the Negroes, and then remarked:

"In this casual fashion, the matter of counsel in a capital case was disposed of."

Describing the atmosphere in Scottsboro, where the Negroes were taken off a freight train after the alleged assault, he said:

"It does not sufficiently appear that the defendants were seriously threatened with or that they were actually in danger of mob violence; but it does appear that the attitude of the community was one of great hostility. The Sheriff thought it necessary to call for the militia in safeguarding the prisoners. Chief Justice Anderson pointed out in his opinion that every step taken from the arrest and arraignment to the sentence was accompanied by the military.

Remarks on Hostile Atmosphere.

"It is perfectly apparent that the proceedings from beginning to end took place in an atmosphere of tense, hostile and excited public sentiment. During the entire time the defendants were closely confined or were under military guard.

"The record does not disclose their ages, except that one of them was 19 and another only 14 or 15 years of age; but the record clearly indicates that most, if not all of them, were youthful and they are constantly referrer to as 'the boys.' They were ignorant and illiterate. All of them were residents of other States, where alone members of their families or friends resided."

However guilty the defendants may have been proved to be, they were presumed to b innocent until convicted, Justice Sutherland stated.

"It was the duty of the court having their cases in charge to see that they were denied no necessary incident of a fair trial," he continued.

"It is hardly necessary to say that the rights of counsel being conceded, a defendant should be afforded a fair opportunity to secure counsel of his own choice. Not only was that not done here, but such designation of counsel as was attempted was either so indefinite or so close upon the trial as to amount to a denial of effective and substantial aid in that regard. This will be amply demonstrated by a brief review of the record.

"It thus will be seen that until the very morning of the trial no lawyer had been named or definitely designated to represent the defendants."

Court's Powers Defined.

After tracing precedents for right of counsel for prisoners, the opinion continued.

"In the light of the facts outlined n the forepart of this opinion—the gnorance and illiteracy of the defendants, their youth, the circumstances of public hostility, the imprisonment and the close surveillance of the defendants by the military forces, the fact that their friends and families were all in other States and communication with them necessarily difficult, and, above all, that they stood in deadly peril of their lives—we think the failure of the trial

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Alabama

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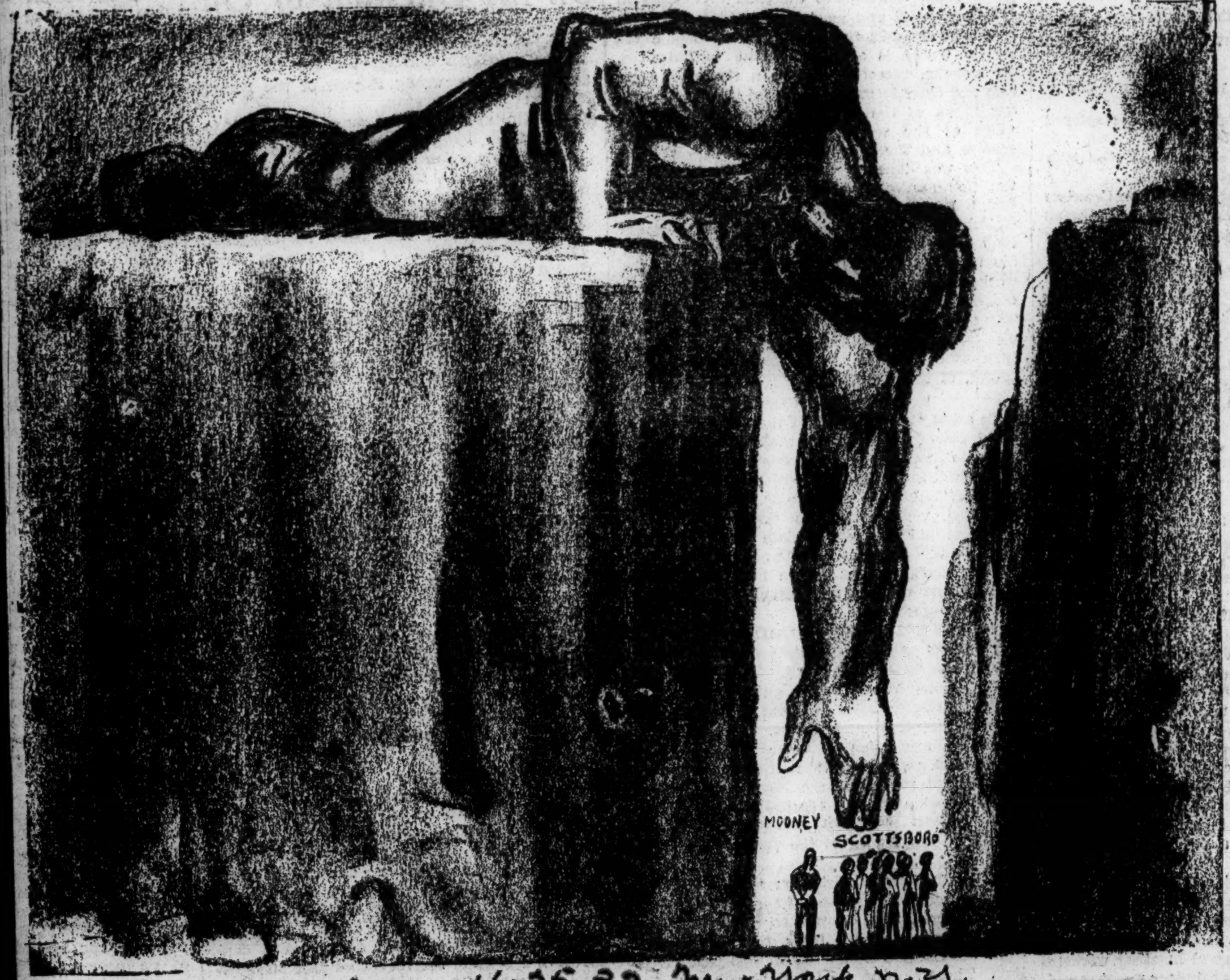
Legal Punishment for Rape

ONLY THE WORKING CLASS CAN SAVE THEM!

By BURCK



Daily Worker 4-25-32 New York N.Y.

Negro Defense Going To U. S. Supreme Court

Advertiser

4-10-32

Montgomery, Ala.

Alabama's High Tribunal Refuses Rehearing In Scottsboro Attack Case

Appeal Is Decided

Chamlee To Seek Stay; Knight Says His Office Will Defend Decision

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., April 9.—(AP)—Immediate steps will be taken to carry the case of the seven negroes convicted of attacking two white girls on a train near Scottsboro, Ala., to the Supreme Court of the United States, Atty. George W. Chamblee, chief counsel for the defendants announced here today when told that the Alabama Supreme Court had denied a rehearing.

At the same time he will attempt to get a stay of execution, Attorney Chamlee, who was retained by the International Labor Defense, said.

The Alabama Supreme Court yesterday overruled an application for a rehearing of its previous decision affirming the sentence of death for seven negroes for attacking two white girls near Scottsboro last Spring.

The date of execution was fixed as Friday, May 13 in the previous decision and only an appeal to the United States Supreme Court or executive clemency remains for the defense attorneys employed by the International Labor Defense, of New York, to forestall execution of the sentence as decreed by a jury of the Jackson County Circuit Court on April 11 last year.

Atty. Gen. Knight said if the cases were appealed to the U. S. Supreme Court he would direct Alabama's defense of the decisions.

"It is the policy of this office to follow through to the U. S. Supreme Court any criminal or civil cases that are appealed," Mr. Knight said, "The records in the Scottsboro case show a fair and impartial trial. If the decision of our Supreme Court is appealed, Mr. Thomas Seay Lawson, my assistant and I will appear to defend the state."

One Word "Overruled"

The court yesterday gave its decision in one word "overruled" written beside the application which was filed by George W. Chamlee, of Chattanooga, chief counsel for the negroes, on March 25, the day after the Supreme Court in a six to one decision had affirmed the death sentences for the seven negroes.

In that decision the court reversed the death sentence of Eugene Williams, 15, holding that because of his age he was a juvenile and the Jackson County Circuit Court was without jurisdiction in his case.

Since the trials last April, Gov. Miller and the Alabama Supreme Court have received hundreds of appeals for the negroes and in some instances threat of bodily harm unless they were "immediately released."

Only this week, Atty. Gen. Knight notified the commercial telegraph companies here that if any more coercive telegrams were delivered to the court while the case was pending, he would seek to have them cited for contempt.

In the written decisions on March 24, the Supreme Court held that the trials were fair, that the trial judge did not err in denying a change of venue, upheld the right of newspapers to publish crime news and held that the 14th amendment to the Constitution was not violated, even though the panel from which the juries in the three trials were drawn did not include negroes.

Mr. Chamlee when he filed the applications for a rehearing said if the Alabama Supreme Court denied it, counsel for the negroes would immediately take steps to bring the case before the United States Supreme Court.

The negroes, Ozie Powell, 17, and Charlie Weems, 21, of Atlanta; Andy Wright, 17, and Heywood Patterson, 17 of Chattanooga; Clarence Norris, 18, and Willie Robertson, 17, of Columbus, Ga. and Olen Montgomery, 17, of Monroe Ga., were arrested at Paint Rock, Ala. March 25, 1931, with Williams, whose sentence was reversed, and Roy Wright 14, whose case resulted in a mistrial.

The two girls, Victoria Price and Ruby Bates, testified in the trials, that the negroes attacked them aboard a gondola car on a freight train, after throwing six of their seven white companions from the train and knocking the seventh unconscious in a fight.

The girls said they were hoboing their way home to Huntsville, Ala., after an unsuccessful search for work in Chattanooga, and at Stevenson, the negroes boarded their car and forced their companions off, then attacked them.

The train was halted at Paint Rock on a message from the Stevenson Railway agent to whom one of the youths thrown from the train reported the affair.

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7 Scottboro Boys Facing Legal Murder on May 13 Appeal to Workers

Daily Worker

Tortured Three Times by Approach of Death, Boys Depend on Working-Class to Force Their Release

CHATTANOOGA, April 18.—Jane Dillon, Southern organizer of the International Labor Defense, yesterday received the following letter from the seven Scottsboro boys confined in the death cells at Kilby Prison, Montgomery. The letter is signed by Andy Wright, the oldest of the 7 boys. The letter is an expression of the mental agony suffered by the boys as a result of their confinement in the death cells and the approach of May 13, the date set by the Alabama Supreme Court for them to burn in the electric chair.

4-19-32

This is the third time the Alabama bosses have set a date for the legal lynching of these innocent young boys caught up in the net of a vicious class and race frame-up—the third time that the boys have been forced to experience the suspense of seeing the death date draw nearer.

This letter must serve to rally the entire working class to the building of a tremendous mass defense movement, involving millions of white and Negro workers in the mass fight to save the boys. The letter follows

New York
N.Y.

Kilby Prison
Montgomery, Ala.
April 12th, 1932.

Dear Miss. Dillon:—

I certainly hope that I am not bothering you too much or either too troublesome of course I realize you all are doing everything that is possible for we boys and we boys are very thankful for what you all are doing for us. As I realize it takes time and money and things cannot be done as we wish especially two or three things at once.

What I wish to say—in you all spare time and chances if our cases go before the U. S. Supreme Court which will remain read (keep—Editor) us here quite a while won't it Miss Dillon, but hear what I wants to ask you if it's not impossible any way at all please try to have us moved back to Birmingham County Jail so we will have a little room to get excíste (exercise—Editor) because this little tight place goes awful hard with us here especially in the summer and no room to walk around in here. In confinement of this little tight room so long, really it will soon run a person crazy. No exerciste, no kind of joyment to keep your mind together. Miss Dillon honest you really cannot imagine how hard it goes with we poor boys here with nothing to keep our minds together. Of course sometimes we have magazines to read what people send us. But they very often runs out. Facts about it I don't really believe I can put up with it in here another year before I be gone insane mystelf. As nothing more I wil close.

Sincerely,
ANDY [redacted].
P. S. soon as possible.

MOBILE, ALA.
[redacted]
Press

APR 9 1932

REHEARING IS DENIED CONDEMNED NEGROES

Execution Date For Seven Convicted at Scottsboro Reset May 13 By Supreme Court Action

(By The Associated Press)

MONTGOMERY, Ala., April 9.—The Alabama supreme court today overruled an application for rehearing of the appeals of seven young negroes sentenced to die May 13 for attacks on two white girls near Paint Rock, Ala., March 25, 1931. No opinion was written.

The applications for rehearing were filed March 25, the day after the supreme court in a 6-to-1 decision had affirmed the death sentences imposed on seven of the negroes and reversed the sentence of an eighth.

U. S. Appeal Planned

The applications for a rehearing and reviews of the evidence were filed by George Chamlee, Chattanooga, Tenn., attorney, who announced then that if denied, an effort would be made to take the case before the United States supreme court.

Unless attorneys are successful in getting the case before the United States supreme court, only Gov. B. M. Miller can save them from the electric chair.

Executiion Date Reset

The action of the supreme court resets Friday, May 13, as the date of execution of the sentences. Filing the application for rehearing had acted to cause the court to withhold execution of death warrants, pending disposition of the plea.

The negroes under death sentence are Ozie Powell, 17, and Charlie Weems, 21, of Atlanta; Andy Wright, 17, and Heywood Patterson, 17, of Chattanooga; Olen Montgomery, 17, Monroe, Ga., Willie Robertson, 17, and Clarence Norris, 18 Columbus, Ga.

During the trials early last April the International Labor Defense, of New York, telegraphed Judge A. J Hawkins, presiding, and Governor Miller demanding that the "legal lynching" be stopped and a change of venue be granted.

Petitions Numerous

Since the sentences were passed, Governor Miller and the Alabama supreme court have received numerous petitions in their behalf several instances the pleas negroes contained threats of violence if they were not immediately released.

Governor Miller, since the supreme court acted, March 24, has received several hundred communications in behalf of the negroes, the majority of which are postal cards demanding "the immediate safe release of these nine innocent Scottsboro boys."

In addition to the seven under sentence, Eugene Williams, 15, of Chattanooga, whose sentence was reversed in the supreme court decision, and Roy Wright, 14, a juvenile, were indicted for the offense which occurred aboard a freight train between Stevenson, Ala., and Paint Rock.

Girls Were Hoboing

The two girls told authorities they were hoboing their way from Chattanooga to their homes in Huntsville in a gondola car with seven white youths. At Stevenson, they testified in the trials, the negroes boarded the car and forced all except one of the white youths to jump off and attacked them. The one white youth the girls testified was knocked unconscious in a fight.

The negroes in their trials individually denied taking part in the attacks.

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment for Rape

Alabama

3700

INGLEWOOD, CAL.
NEWS

DEC 2 - 1932

CHALLENGE TO BAR AND BENCH

ON NOVEMBER 7 the supreme court, by a vote of seven to two, set aside the death sentences passed on the seven Negro boys implicated in the now-famous Scottsboro case. The boys must accordingly be granted new trials by the state of Alabama. Altogether too few white Americans appreciate even yet all that has become involved, in the minds of the colored population, in this case. Had the supreme court confirmed the death sentences, as the supreme court of Alabama had previously done, it is safe to say that most of the Negroes in this country would have taken that as conclusive evidence that the law offers no secure protection or justicve to members of their race. A pronounced swing toward economic and political radicalism would have been the inevitable result.

As it is, the case long ago ceased to be primarily an attempt to save seven friendless, illiterate boys from the gallows and became mainly a contest over the capitalizaton of its relation to the class struggle. Now that the supreme court has set aside the previous convictions, on grounds that seemed fairly obvious to most outside observers, there is an opportunity for both the bar and the state to repair much of the damage to decent race relations in the United States that has been done. It should now be possible for the bar of the south to see to it that these boys have placed at their disposal as competent legal assistance as would be available to any other persons, without regard to color. And the state of Alabama should grasp this as an opportunity to prove to the skeptical colored people of the country that the members of their race can be given exact and even-handed justice in the courts as at present constituted.

The supreme court has intervened to protect the nation against an impending social catastrophe; but the value of the court's deboys implcated in the now-famous Scottsboro case. The boys their responsibility.

Mrs. Ada Wright, Bearing Ashes of Scottsboro Martyr From Russia, Greeted by 400

Afro-American

Mother of Condemned Boy Has Toured Principal Cities of Europe in International Fight

Baltimore Md

NEW YORK.—First class passengers, wrapped in costly furs and adorned with glittering jewels stood [illegible] tracks and suave uniformed port officials halted their duties in amazement as four hundred Negro and white men and women wildly cheered a smiling Negro women as she stepped down second class gangplank of the luxurious S. S. Bremen, at 2 noon, Wednesday, December 14, Pier 4, Brooklyn, Port of New York.

The cheering men and women recognized the smiling woman as Mrs. Ada Wright, American working class ambassadress, mother of two of the Scottsboro boys, emissary to the hundreds of millions of European workers, and guest of honor of the World Congress of the International Red Aid. She was returning to America after having completed a tour of 16 European countries in behalf of her sons and the other Scottsboro boys held in the death house, Kilby prison, Alabama.

Away Eight Months

Eight months ago, with the Scottsboro boys under a death sentence, she had ascended this same gangplang with J. Louis Engdahl, then general secretary of the International Labor Defense. Together, these two turned to the crowded pier and said with quiet conviction "The Scottsboro boys shall not die!"

Today Mrs. Wright was returning. Her tour with Engdahl which reached hundreds of thousands of working men and women in almost every capital and large city of Europe, has internationalized the Scottsboro issue. From just another instance of oppressoin against the Negro people in an obscure and sleepy little Southern town, hardly "worth" more than a paragraph in a northern newspaper, the case has reached the proportions of an international symbol of systematic and ruthless terror against, not only the Negroes in the Southern states, but the colored populations of South Africa, Liberia, South America and the West Indies, and the entire world, in the greatest display of international working class solidarity in the history of the world.

Wreathed in Smiles

Ada Wright's face was wreathed in smiles as she nodded her head and waved her hand to her boisterous reception committee. She understood their plaudits. These people were calling to their own ambassadress who had proved such a tremendous factor in winning a new trial from the United States Supreme Court for the nine innocent boys so brutally framed-up in Scottsboro.

She turned and spoke to her companions, Carl Hacker, national organizer of the I.L.D., and Miriam Brooks, youth delegate from California, they nodded and the entire group fell in line behind them, singing the "Internationale."

At a nearby hall, Mrs. Wright spoke. She explained how, with J. Louis Engdahl, they had travelled from city to city, from country to country, speaking at meetings, at demonstrations and over the radio; how the authorities of Belgium had twice deported her, how the Czechoslovakian government had arrested her, and how the Bulgarian government had thrust her back across the border. She also spoke of the thousands who gathered at the stations to cheer her and to pledge that her sons and the other boys would be saved by international solidarity of all workers against oppression.

Ada Wright's voice caught a little when she spoke of Engdahl. "He worked day and night to save the Scottsboro boys. He went without sleep, food, and proper care. He was sick, but he refused to stop and rest. He died in Moscow, his health broken in the struggle to prevent the murder of the Scottsboro children. The Negro people have lost one of their staunchst fighters, and I have lost a great friend."

Carl Hacker spoke, too. He said Mrs. Wright and Engdahl left a profound effect upon the European labor movement. Every speaker at the World Congress of the International Red Aid spoke of the Scottsboro case, he said. He pointed to Engdahl's ashes which they brought to this country. "We lower our banners in honor of Engdahl only to raise them again in the struggle for which Engdahl died. We shall carry on the fight for the lives of the Scottsboro boys and the struggle against all forms of social oppression until the day when mob and legal lynching, terror and oppression is wiped from off the face of the earth."

Mrs. Wright was one of the main speakers at the gigantic Engdahl Memorial Meeting at the Bronx Coliseum, Sunday, December 18, Bronx, New York. More than ten thousand people were there.

Mass meetings in honor of the memory of Engdahl at which Ada Wright and Hacker will speak will be held in many other cities, including Philadelphia, December 20; Hungarian Hall, 1144 N. Fourth Street, 8 p.m.; Pittsburgh, December 22, Carnegie Hall, 8 p.m.; Cleveland, December 23, Engineers Auditorium, St. Clair and Ontario Street, 7:30; Detroit, December 24, 8 p.m., banquet and reception, Jericho Temple, 2605 Joy Road; Chicago, December 28; Minneapolis, December 30; Birmingham, January 4; Atlanta, and on the west coast.

All Deals Off In Scottsboro Case

Knight Rebuffs Counsel's Bid, Chamlee To Seek Release Of 2 Negroes

Advertiser
12-24-32
Montgomery, Ala.

In view of "the disrespect shown to the courts of Alabama and the nation," Atty. Gen. Knight said yesterday he would not enter into any agreement in any procedure with counsel representing the International Labor Defense or the Communist party. Matters relating to procedure address themselves to the court, he added.

His statement was made following a call at his office in the capitol yesterday afternoon by George W. Chamlee, of Chattanooga, Tenn., who is chief counsel for the nine negroes indicted at Scottsboro for criminally assaulting two young white girls, and who was here seeking an agreement as to procedure in the cases. Chamlee and other attorneys associated with him in the defense of the negroes, are employed by the International Labor Defense.

After his interview with the Attorney General, Chamlee announced that he would seek the release on habeas corpus of two of the negroes, Roy Wright and Eugene Williams, filing the procedure as to Wright in Birmingham, and the one for the release of Williams in Montgomery. Petition for habeas corpus in each case is to be based on the contention that the negroes are juveniles and that their ages were 15 and 14 years, respectively, at the time of their arrest.

Want Juvenile Court To Decide

Should habeas corpus writs be granted, it was learned, the two cases would go before the juvenile court for determination of whether the negroes were incorrigible or not. If they are held to be incorrigible, then their cases will be returned to the Circuit Court. If not, the juvenile court judge will prescribe whatever correctional measures he deems proper. He may place them in an institution, put them on probation or otherwise provide for their correction, his discretion in this connection being of wide range.

A change of venue will be sought for retrial of the other seven negroes, which was made necessary by reversal of judgment of the State courts in these cases by the Supreme Court of the United States, but Chamlee was unable to say definitely yesterday to what place the change would be sought. The Chattanooga attorney who was accompanied here by one of his associates, Irvin Schwob, of New York, indicated, however, that included in the alternate locations mentioned in the motion would probably be Birmingham, Huntsville and Gadsden.

One Held In Birmingham

Roy Wright in whose case a mistrial resulted, has ever since been confined in jail at Birmingham. Eugene Williams is held at Kilby Prison with the other seven defendants. In this latter case judgment of conviction was reversed by the Supreme Court of Alabama which held him to be a juvenile and ruled the Jackson Circuit Court was without jurisdiction.

In the other cases which were appealed, the State Supreme Court upheld judgments of conviction and the sentences of death imposed. The cases were then taken before the U. S. Supreme Court on certiorari and that tribunal decreed a reversal and retrial of the condemned negroes. These trials are scheduled to take place during the March terms of the Jackson Circuit Court at Scottsboro.

Following the original convictions, Gov. Miller was bombarded with telegrams, letters and postcards from all sections of the United States and the rest of the world, signed by sub-branches of the International Labor Defense and other radical organizations, and individuals demanding release of the prisoners. After appeals in the cases were submitted to the Supreme Court of the State, that body was subjected to a like bombardment of similar communications and Chief Justice John C. Anderson took occasion to condemn from the bench efforts made to influence or intimidate the court.

In Washington when the U. S. Supreme Court rendered its decision of reversal, an assemblage of radicals put on a demonstration which assumed such proportions that its dispersal by capitol police was made necessary.

Workers to Greet Her

Daily [illegible]

12-14-32

Mrs. Ada Wright, mother of two of the Scottsboro Boys who will be greeted by large delegations of workers today on her return on the S. S. Bremen from her European Scottsboro tour. Mrs. Wright is one of the returning delegation to the I. R. A. World Congress, bearing the ashes of J. Louis Engdahl, one of the most indefatigable fighters for the release of the Scottsboro boys.

New York N.Y.

High Court To Let Four Negroes Burn

12-16-32

Montgomery Ala.

Affirming circuit court judgments in four capital cases, ~~and fixing~~ Friday, Feb. 3, 1933, as the date for execution of the death sentences the Alabama Supreme Court yesterday granted a new trial in a fifth case where the trial court imposed the extreme penalty.

Those in whose cases judgment of affirmance was rendered are: Elijah Goldsby, convicted in Dallas County of the murder of Rosetta Lee. Willie James Johnson, convicted in Jefferson County of killing Jack Hartzog. Charlie Jones, alias Charlie Johnson, convicted in the same county of murdering Josephine Matthews. Clarence Robinson, alias Texas Slim, convicted in Mobile of the murder of Max Moore, alias Max Crow.

The case in which the trial court was reversed, was that of John Orr, Jr., negro, found guilty of criminally assaulting a white woman. Reversal was on account of error by the trial judge in charging the jury. During his trial Orr protested his innocence of the crime with which he was charged.

Negroes' Counsel Is Given Rebuff

Telegraph 12-24-32

International Labor Defense May Ask Habeas Corpus

Macon Ga.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Dec. 23 (AP) Rebuffed by the attorney general in their efforts to seek an agreement to procedure, attorneys employed by the International Labor Defense announced Friday they would seek the freedom of two of nine Negroes indicted in the Scottsboro attack case on writs of habeas corpus.

George W. Chamlee of Chattanooga, chief counsel for the Negroes, said after a conference with Attorney General Thomas E. Knight, Jr., that he would go to Birmingham to file a writ in behalf of Roy Wright, and would take similar action here for Eugene Williams, on the grounds they are juveniles.

After the conference with Chamlee, Knight said, "due to the disrespect shown the Alabama courts and the courts of the nation, I will not enter into any agreement in any procedure with counsel representing the International Labor Defense or the Communist party. The matters of procedure address themselves to the trial court."

Previous to the conference Chamlee said he probably would discuss a change of venue for the other seven Negroes, recently granted a new trial on appeal to the United States Supreme court, which reversed the death sentences and remanded the cases for re-trial.

Knight said this was not discussed as he did not desire to enter any "pre-trial conferences," but immediately after the United States Supreme court ruled in the cases Nov. 7, he announced he would not oppose a change of venue motion. The cases come up for hearing in the regular March term of the Jackson circuit court at Scottsboro.

COUNSEL SEEKS WRIT FOR ALABAMA NEGROES

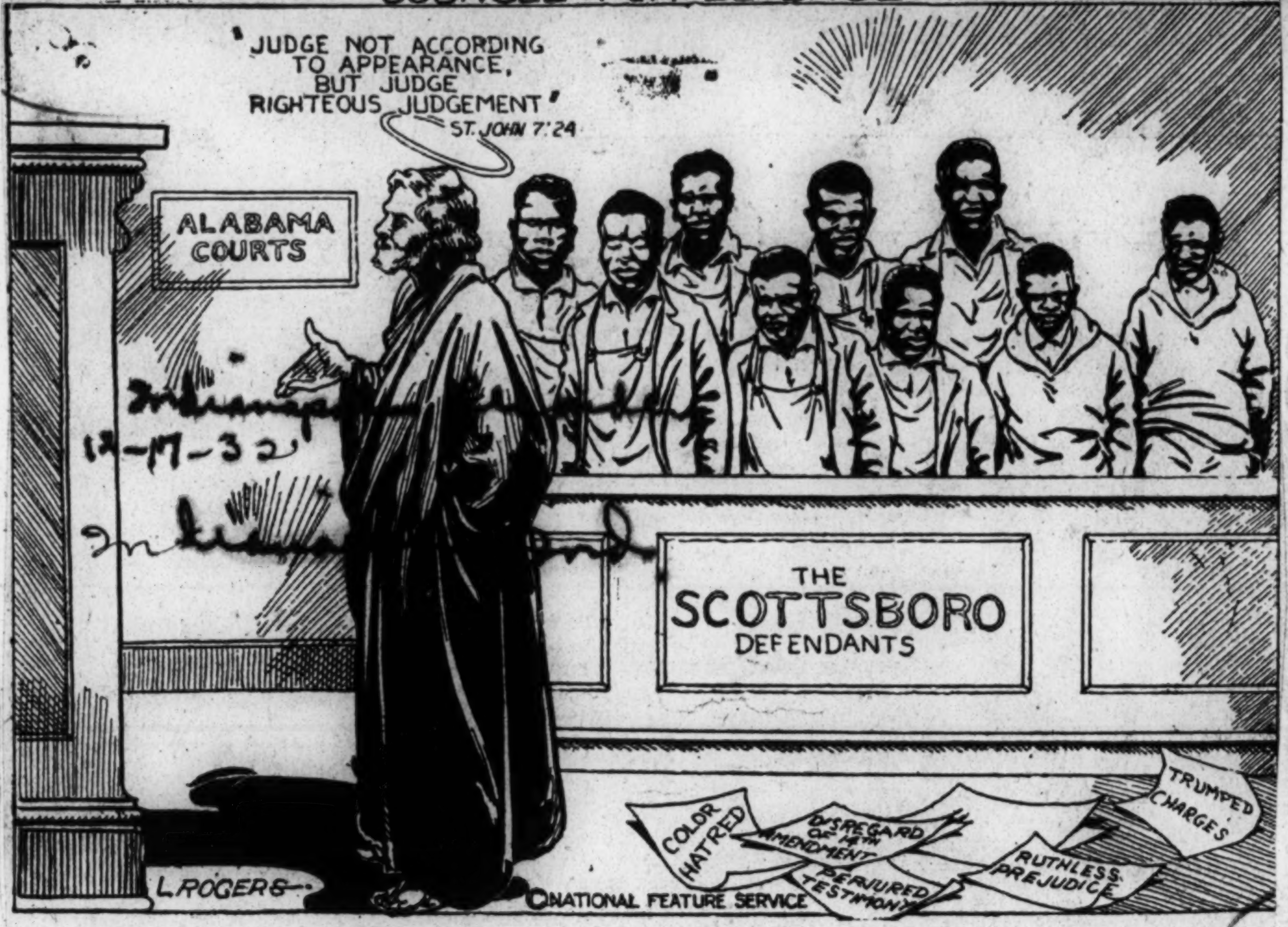
[illegible]

MONTOGMERY, Ala., Dec. 28.—(AP)—A petition seeking release of the Tallapoosa county negro share croppers from the Montgomery county jail on writs of habeas corpus was filed today in circuit court here by counsel for the negroes.

The negroes, Ivy, Thomas and Jug Moss, were brought here from Tuskegee for safe keeping last week following their arrest in connection with racial disorders in Tallapoosa county in which four officers were wounded and a negro slain.

Atlanta Ga.

COUNSEL FOR DEFENSE



"JUDGE NOT ACCORDING TO APPEARANCE, BUT JUDGE RIGHTEOUS JUDGEMENT" ST. JOHN 7:24
ALABAMA COURTS
THE SCOTTSBORO DEFENDANTS
COLOR HATRED
DISREGARD OF 14TH AMENDMENT
PERJURED TESTIMONY
RUTHLESS PREJUDICE
TRUMPED CHARGES
L. ROGERS
©NATIONAL FEATURE SERVICE

Indianapolis [illegible]

12-17-32

Indianapolis [illegible]

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Alabama.

3701

NEW YORK TIMES

DEC 23 1932

SEEK CHANGE OF VENUE FOR SCOTTSBORO CASE

Attorneys for Negroes, Saved by Supreme Court, Want New Trial in Birmingham.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Dec. 22.—A change of venue of the Scottsboro cases to Birmingham will be asked, it was announced today by George W. Chamlee of Chattanooga, Tenn., an attorney for the nine Negroes.

Chamlee came to Birmingham today with Irving Schwab of New York, another attorney for the International Labor Defense, to begin preparations for the new trial of the Negroes as ordered by the United States Supreme Court.

The first step to be taken by the defense, Chamlee said, would look toward obtaining a private conference with the defendants. All previous conferences of International Labor Defense attorneys with the Negroes, he said, had been in the presence of others, although the law provides for private conferences between attorney and client. The power of the law would be invoked, if necessary, to obtain such conferences, it was said.

Another plan of the defense attorneys, Chamlee said, seeks removal of eight of the Negroes from the death house at Kilby prison. The Negroes are still in the death house, he said, in violation of customary practice.

In seeking a change of venue, the attorney declared, the defense was accepting the recent published statement of Attorney General Knight that he would not oppose transferring the cases to any county in Alabama.

Chamlee and Schwab were preparing to go to Montgomery Thursday afternoon for their first move, which was to obtain a private conference with the defendants.

Second Negro Appeal Before Supreme Court

Constitution 12-28-32 Atlanta

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—(AP)—Another case of negroes under death sentence claiming, as in the Scottsboro case, that they were deprived of their constitutional rights has reached the supreme court.

Eli Terrell, Thomas Franklin and Moss Conner, convicted of killing Po- [illegible] Weinstein at New [illegible] bing the shop of Mrs. Martha Kent in New Orleans, contended they had been convicted on confessions obtained from them by protracted beatings by police officers and the use of third-degree methods.

The Louisiana supreme court sustained the death sentences, but two members of the court dissented, one filing an opinion holding the confessions had been obtained by undue influence.

CHANGE OF VENUE FOR CASE SOUGHT

Attorneys For Scottsboro Negroes Want Trial In Jefferson County Court

Advertiser 12-22-32 Montgomery, Ala.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Dec. 22.—(AP)—Defense attorneys announced today an effort would be made to transfer the Scottsboro case to the docket of the Jefferson Circuit Court here.

George W. Chamlee, of Chattanooga, said the request for a change of venue from Jackson County, would be presented both from the standpoint of fairness and protection to all concerned.

Accompanied by Irving Schwab, of New York, attorney for the International Labor Defense, Chamlee came here to lay plans for the new trial ordered by the U. S. Supreme Court for the seven negro defendants.

In remanding the trial to the Jackson Circuit Court, the Supreme Court ordered the new hearing set for the next term of court, which is in March. Ordinarily, when a change of venue is granted in Alabama, the case is shifted to an adjoining county.

The request that the trial be brought here will be presented the trial court, however, Chamlee said, in view of Atty. Gen. Thomas E. Knight's published statement that he would not oppose a transfer to any Alabama County.

Knight Noncommittal On Scottsboro Venue Change

The only comment Atty. Gen. Thomas E. Knight, Jr., had to make yesterday, when informed of a report from Birmingham, that counsel for the seven negroes convicted at Scottsboro and condemned to death for criminally assaulting two white girls, was seeking a change of venue on retrial of the cases, to Birmingham, was: "I will try the cases when they come up. Where they will be tried is a matter that addresses itself only to the court."

The Attorney General personally represented the State in connection with submission to the Supreme Court of Alabama of appeals in all seven cases: and when they were later taken before the Supreme Court of the United States for reviewal, he again personally represented the State. When the Nation's highest tribunal reversed judgment of affirmance of the Alabama Supreme Court, new trials were required. They will take place some time in March.

NEW YORK TIMES

DEC 24 1932

REFUSES AGREEMENT ON SCOTTSBORO TRIAL

Attorney General Bars Arranging Procedure With Labor Defense Counsel.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Dec. 23 (AP).—Rebuffed by Attorney General Thomas E. Knight Jr. in their efforts to seek an agreement on procedure, attorneys employed by the International Labor Defense announced today that they would seek the freedom of two of nine Negroes indicted in the Scottsboro attack case on writs of habeas corpus.

George W. Chamlee of Chattanooga, chief of counsel for the Negroes, said he would file a writ in behalf of Roy Wright in Birmingham and one here for Eugene Williams on the ground they are juveniles.

After a conference with Mr. Chamlee Mr. Knight said: "Due to the disrespect shown the Alabama courts and the courts of the nation, I will not enter into any agreement in any procedure with counsel representing the International Labor Defense or the Communist party."

Prior to the conference Mr. Chamlee said he probably would discuss a change of venue for the other seven Negroes, to whom a new trial was recently granted on appeal to the United States Supreme Court, which reversed the death sentences and remanded the cases for retrial.

Mr. Knight said this was not discussed, but previously announced he would not oppose a change of venue. The cases come up for hearing in the regular March, 1933, term of the Jackson Circuit Court at Scottsboro.

Williams claimed to be 15 years old and Wright 14 when the nine Negroes were arrested at Paint Rock, Ala., March 25, 1931, charged with attacking two young Huntsville white girls aboard a freight train on which the girls were "hoboing" their way home from Chattanooga.

Scotts. Conference and Engdahl Meet in Phila.

Daily Worker 12-19-32 New York, N.Y.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 18.—Mother Mooney and Ada Wright, Scottsboro Mother, will be the main speakers at the Engdahl memorial meeting in the Hungarian Hall, Tuesday, Dec, 20 at 8 p.m. A parade from the Broad Street station will take place at 7 p.m. where the two mothers will be greeted by Philadelphia workers.

A call has been issued by the Philadelphia I.L.D. for a United Front Scottsboro Conference on January 19th at the Young Friends Hall, 140 N. 15 St. at 8 p.m. Workers are asked to take this up in their organizations and elect delegates to the conference.

J. Louis Engdahl's Role in Fight for Scottsboro Boys

Daily Worker 12-17-32 New York, N.Y.

By WILLIAM L. PATTERSON.

(General Sec'y Int'l Labor Defense)

A MEMORIAL tribute to J. Louis Engdahl, National Chairman of the International Labor Defense, will be held this Sunday night at the Bronx Coliseum. Black and white, native and foreign-born workers and their friends should be there. This is the tribute to a man who played a glorious part in the struggle for human liberty. Comrade Engdahl died in the service of his class, a fighter for oppressed humanity. He died in the front ranks of the struggle.

J. Louis Engdahl was a martyr of the class struggle. He was no less a victim of the bloody terror of the ruling class than if he had laid down his life in the fiercer clash of armed forces. Harrassed by secret service men of America and foreign countries, persecuted by the police of 16 European countries, Engdahl was so weakened from the struggle with the class enemy without, he had no power to resist disease, the enemy from within.

There could have been no more fitting climax to his life than that he should have died in Moscow, capital of the Workers' Fatherland. From here the cry of the masses that saved Tom Mooney's life first came. Mooney and Scottsboro, Scottsboro and Mooney—history links them together. There is an inseparable link between the struggle Engdahl led and the socialist construction of the Russian workers. The one gives added strength to the other.

* * *

IT was while J. Louis Engdahl was its general secretary that the International Labor Defense and its supporters laid the basis for complete victory in the Scottsboro case. Only a partial victory was achieved in his lifetime. That partial victory was realized because the Scottsboro case was internationalized—because the current of Negro liberation was merged with struggles of the working class. This could not have been accomplished if there had not been some understanding that Scottsboro was an act of national oppression and more—that a blow in defense of Negro liberation was at once an act of defense of the struggles of the whole working class. American imperialism helped momentarily to strengthen German imperialism to support the toppling Bank of England. Imperialism shows its international relationship when the struggles of the working class threatens any seemingly separate part. A blow at American imperialism weakens European imperialism. Scottsboro is an integral part of the struggles of the toiling and exploited masses of the world.

J. Louis Engdahl, internationalizer of Scottsboro, is gone, but the victory of Scottsboro is not yet complete. A crowning monument to him would be a complete victory. Victory in the Scottsboro case personified by nine innocent Negro boys means their unconditional freedom; Scottsboro is the symbol of an oppressed nation, its victory marks the end of its oppression nationally; victory in Scottsboro, the symbol of world oppression, means a world liberated.

* * *

BY defending the Scottsboro boys, the struggles against mass unemployment and mass starvation are defended. By defending the Scottsboro boys, American imperialism is attacked. By attacking American imperialism the socialist fortress is defended. By defending the world of socialism the imperialist world is attacked. J. Louis Engdahl saw this.

As an enduring statue to J. Louis Engdahl, build the International Labor Defense into an irresistible weapon of working-class defense. The memorial to J. Louis Engdahl should launch the victorious march toward which he led so decisive a forward step.

Gastonia. N. C. Gazette
Monday, November 28, 1932

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A BLOW TO THE REDS.

The utter uselessness of the demonstrations which radical groups undertake now and then was seldom better illustrated than in the incident which attended the U. S. Supreme court's recent decision granting new trials to the seven negroes from Scottsboro, Ala., who had been sentenced to death for attacking two white girls.

For some reason that was never quite clear, the Communists had made the cause of the seven men their own; and when the day came for the Supreme court to hand down its decision on the case they tried to picket the court in the best ultra-radical style.

The police promptly, and properly, sent them about their business, if any; and while the Reds were being ingloriously scattered, the Supreme court handed down a decision giving all the condemned men new trials.

If the decision had been adverse, we would have heard a lot about capitalistic oppression and whatnot; but as it is the demonstrators are left looking more than a little silly.

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2 More Negroes Die In 'Bama Disorders

Constitution
12-28-32

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Dec. 27.—(AP)—Two negroes, shot during the racial disorders in Tallapoosa county last week, succumbed to the wounds here today, bringing to three the number killed as a result of the trouble.

Atlanta, Ga.

Cliff Jeans, negro, at whose farm home a gun battle between alleged members of the Share Croppers' Union and Tallapoosa county officers took place, died in the county jail, and a few hours later Milo Bentley died at the Kilby prison hospital after he had been removed from the jail.

A negro named Jim McMullen was found dead at the Jeans home after the gun battle in which four deputy sheriffs were wounded, one seriously. Jeans was believed to have been shot during the pitched battle which followed efforts of the officers to attach live stock belonging to him. He was shot twice.

Bentley was reported to have been shot five times as he resisted arrest near Notasulga, Ala., as a posse rounded up the negroes reported involved in the trouble. He was transferred to the prison hospital on an order from Governor B. M. Miller after a physician pronounced his condition critical.

THE SCOTTSBORO CAMPAIGN AT HOME AND ABROAD

By LOUISE THOMPSON

Black Dispatch
12-24-32
Oklahoma City, Okla.

(Miss Louise Thompson has just returned from a four months stay in Soviet Russia. Miss Thompson was a member of the Negro film group invited to Russia by Meschrabpom Film to participate in the Negro film, "Black and White" which has been postponed until next year. Along with other members of the group she toured thru Central Asia and the Caucasus studying the national minority groups who priorto the revolution lived under such oppression as exists in America today against the Negro. Miss Thompson, formerly of the staff of the Congregational Education Society, is now working actively as assistant secretary of the National Committee for the defense of Political Prisoners in behalf of the Scottsboro case.)

Through the accidental fact that Scottsboro, Alabama, happened to be just the place where nine Negro boys were dragged out of box cars, arrested and sentenced to death on a trumped-up charge of rape in March of 1931, this little town of some hundred persons is the focal point of world-wide attention today. As one leaves the United States and travels in other countries, the "Scottsboro Case" looms as the most significant happening in American life.

Last June twenty-two of us sailed for Soviet Russia aboard the S. S. Europa. Such a large group of Negroe naturally attracted a great deal of attention from the rest of the passengers, and after being asked on all sides about Scottsboro, we thought of discussing the case in a meeting aboard ship. The captain, a staunch old Bourbon, forbade such a meeting, and feeling ran high among the passengers who had asked for the meeting.

Shortly after we reached Moscow an invitation came to us to participate in a Scottsboro demonstration at the famous Park of Rest and Culture. We marched onto a platform before 25,000 workers whose cheers of greeting were a distinct surprise and pleasure to us who had so recently left the prejudiced shores of America. We joined in the protest along with Russian, German, Chinese, English, and others representing different races. This sort of demonstration we saw repeated in many points of Soviet Russia. In Central Asia among the minor nationalities, whose liberation under the Bolsheviks is still very new, Scottsboro town is better known than New York City. In the schools the children write and draw cartoons of the Scottsboro case. A prominent American woman upon returning to the United States expressed her amazement at the fact that the only question asked her by Russian workers concerned the Scottsboro case. Indeed, for the Russian worker and peasant Scottsboro is a burning issue against which protest cannot be too vehement.

Just before leaving Russia I met Mrs. Ada Wright, mother of Roy and Andy Wright, who had just completed a six months tour in sixteen European countries, appearing before 200 audiences of enthusiastic workers and liberals. With her was J. Louis Engdahl, who a few days later died of pneumonia, a result of his lowered resistance after this strenuous tour. She told me of her cordial reception by the workers of Germany, England, France, Denmark, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czecho-Slovakia, Norway and other countries. In Germany two workers were killed while participating in a protest against the treatment of Mrs. Wright by the German police. In Belgium, where Mrs. Wright was arrested and expelled twice, working women demonstrated and many were arrested. This simple Negro mother had carried the story of Scottsboro to thousands of foreign workers who readily joined in the world-wide protest and demand for the freedom of the Scottsboro boys.

Upon returning to the United States one is eager to find out how widespread is the interest at home in Scottsboro and expects to find a wave of protest far greater than in points so far removed from the scene of conflict. The indifference evident in many quarters seems unbelievable. At the same time, however, one finds beginnings of interest among people who up to this time have taken no part in this struggle.

Such interest is exemplified in the recent formation of the Scottsbore Unity Defense Committee in New York City. Responding to a call for all men and women regardless of creed or political affiliation to unite for the purpose of helping to free the Scottsboro boys, many white and Negro intellectuals and professional people are now interested and contributing in every possible way to the organized defense. Among the Harlemites interested are Mrs. Bernia L. Austin, Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Douglas, Rose McClendon, Langston Hughes, Mrs. Viola Carter, Augusta Savage, Wallace Thurman, Dr. Kelly Miller, Jr., and Marguerite White, Sherwood Anderson, Malcolm Cowley, John Henry Hammond, Jr., Prof. Franz Boas and Lewis Mumford are among the interested white liberals.

Perhaps the Scottsboro Unity Defense Committee will be a starting point for a large movement which will extend beyond New York to the entire country. The United States Supreme Court's reversal of the decision of the Alabama courts is a victory for the defense. The boys will now have a new trial before the Alabama court and the defense must have the support of broad mass sentiment in the new struggle to free these innocent victims of southern oppression.

Lynchings-1932
6
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Alabama

3702

COURIER REVIEWS DETAILS ON EVE OF ARGUMENTS

Courier 10-8-32
Pittsburgh, Pa.

By WILLIAM G. NUNN, City Editor

NINE Negro **BOYS!** Eight of them are in the squalid confines of the "death row" at Kilby prison.

NINE venerable **MEN!** Seated in dignified majesty, they form the Nation's Highest tribunal—the famous "Court of Last Appeal."

The boys are the Scottsboro boys. Their names are international. The men form the Supreme Court of the United States. Their judgment is final.

And on Monday afternoon, October 10—this coming Monday, if you please—these **NINE MEN** will hear the cases of these **NINE BOYS,** and decide whether or not their trial, in the heart of Southern Alabama, was "fair, impartial and without prejudice."

Tonight, as we pen these words, those nine boys, victims of a fate in which COLOR, IGNORANCE and AGITATION paraded across the stages of their lives in leading roles, are peeping through their iron-latticed windows, high in the murky citadel of their prison. They are watching a beautiful harvest moon wend its silvery way across yon purple-blue sky. It's the same harvest moon we're watching.

And as the Scottsboro boys stand, pitiful puppets in a pitiless world, they're watching the hours tick inexorably away,—watching, waiting hoping, praying!

Seventeen Long Months

For 17 long months—more than 500 days—eight of those boys have been in the confines of the gloomy "house of death" near Birmingham. Their cells are practically in sight of the electric chair, which stretches forth with open arms, awaiting the day when it can claim them.

And on Monday, October 10, the Scottsboro case, consisting of three appeals, filed on behalf of the boys convicted of assaults on two white women near the Alabama town of that name, and sentenced to death, will be argued before the High tribunal.

The quest for a new trial is based on the claim that inflamed condition of the public mind and the presence of state militia prevented the boys from receiving a fair trial.

Nine Men—Nine Boys

And as the Supreme Court—NINE MEN — prepares to sit in final judgment on the Scottsboro case—NINE BOYS—an entire world is eagerly awaiting the outcome.

Despite the absence of daily paper publicity—publicity which Alabama fears will turn the spotlight of condemnation upon a South stubbornly determined to treat its black folk as it pleases, and to hell with the rest of the world; despite the battle for a place in the sun waged by the International Labor Defense and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; despite the many complex angles which have so confused and so flustered the boys that for a time they forgot they were the central figures in this life-and-death drama—despite these and numerous other reasons—the Scottsboro case Monday will hold the center of the stage.

'—Thy Will Be Done'—They Pray

Awakened to the realization that upon the decision which will result from Monday's hearing hinges their fate, THE NINE BOYS are pleading to their God to show THE NINE MEN the right thing to do.

"—Thy will be done," is their prayer tonight!

Poor, ignorant, illiterate, disillusioned boys!

But the men who will decide their destiny! They are not ignorant. Bigger than the laws which nations make to govern their citizens —kindly, tolerant, firm—with the infinite wisdom which surpasses understanding, an entire Black Nation within a Nation is pleading that THE NINE MEN refuse to allow THE NINE BOYS to become martyrs to a condition which reeks of venomous hate—a condition over which the Scottsboro boys had no control. A vicious condition which has enchained them in iron bonds they are powerless to break.

The decision of THE NINE MEN will reverberate around the world!

It Started March 25, 1931

But to a summary of the facts in the case:

On the morning of March 25, 1931, a long freight train pulled out of the yards in Chattanooga, Tenn. As it gathered speed little groups of men and boys hopped aboard, headed for Memphis.

As the train wended its way through Northern Alabama a fight ensued between men of the two races. The Negroes won the encounter and threw the white boys off. A telegram, sent to Paint Rock, Ala., resulting in the train being "flagged down" by a squad of deputies. The deputies arrested three small groups of Negro boys on widely separated parts of the 45-car train. On another part of the train they found what they took to be three white boys in overalls. They also were taken along.

Found to Be Girls

The group was taken in automobiles to Scottsboro, county seat of the section. In the county jail the prisoners were searched.

AND TWO OF THE WHITES WERE FOUND TO BE GIRLS!

NINE BOYS — Negroes — TWO GIRLS—WHITE!

The inference and the charges were ready-made. The two white girls, Ruby Blake and Victoria Price, were alleged to be prostitutes, well known in Huntsville and the immediate vicinity as girls who sold their bodies to the "highest bidder."

The girls were kept in jail ALL NIGHT. The next morning the "rape' angle in the case was unfolded.

On Trial in 12 Days

Exactly 12 days later—less than two weeks, the boys—having been indicted for rape by a special grand jury—faced a jury "of their peers" in Scottsboro, Ala.

April 6, 1931, was the day set for the trial. Lynching talk had cooled off. They were going to make this affair "legal." Judge Hawkins knew that the day he had selected was "horse-swapping day"—a fair day—in Scottsboro.

"Sweet Land of Liberty"

..The town's normal population of 1,500 had swelled to 10,000 by the time the trial started. A brass band played the National Anthem—"—Sweet Land of Liberty.'

The State Militia had been called out. Those behind the scenes in this spectacle feared that things might get out of control. Every man who entered the court-house was searched for arms, but the jury was impaneled from this huge mob in town on their "holiday" seeking thrills.

Dragged Into Court

Here come the NINE BOYS! Chained together, they are dragged from the jail to the courthouse. Penniless, illiterate youngsters. No Negro faces in that court. No friends to wish them well, and tell them that they believe in their innocence. No relatives in the courtroom. They were too poor and too frightened of the consequences to be present. The oldest boy is 20, the youngest 13!

On the stand they protest their innocence. But what is the word of a Negro against that of "sensation seeking" white girls, even though the white girls are not,—er-ah, quite respectable.

One Girl "Identifies"

Of the seven white boys from the train, who supposedly saw the attack, one is called and talks briefly. One of the girls even can't remember who attacked her. The other does the "identifying."

The first jury—that in the case of Charlie Weems, 20, and Clarence Norris, 19, retires to the excited sound of mob-hubbub outside the open court windows.

Before the first jury comes in, the second jury, deciding the fate of Heywood Patterson, 18, is recessed in an adjoining room. They hear the verdict of guilty. They hear the applause. They hear the band blare forth in triumph. Promptly, they bring in their verdict.

Five More In Evening

The same evening, five more boys are tried. The next morning the verdict is in. The world knows what it was. Roy Wright, obviously a child, is tried. The prosecutor asks for life imprisonment. There is a mistrial. Eleven of the 12 jurors held out for the chair!

By April 9, the boys are on their way to Kilby prison. July 11 is the date set for the electrocution.

I. L. D.—N. A. A. C. P. Feud

Then started the fight between the I. L. D. and the N. A. A. C. P. for the honor of defending the boys —a fight which raged through nine weary months. The N. A. A. C. P.'s first lawyer was discarded and the law firm of Beddow, Fort and Ray engaged. Meanwhile Attorney Stephen R. Roddy continued to work for the I. L. D.

A stay of execution was secured and a new trial demanded. The motion for the new trial was denied late in June. In September, Clarence Darrow was retained by the N. A. A. C. P.

Early in January, the fight between the two parties came to a head, with Darrow offering to act as attorney in the case, if both organizations would assume a "hands off" policy. This the I. L. D. refused to do. Darrow stepped out of the picture.

Late in January, the I. L. D. took the case to the Alabama Supreme Court. George W. Chamlee headed the counsel.

The Second "Death Date"

On March 26, the Alabama Supreme Court upheld the decision in the Scottsboro case, and Friday, May 13, was set as the date for the execution.

On April 2, the I. L. D. took the case to the U. S. Supreme Court on the grounds that mob spirit and hysteria so dominated the court at the trial, that a "fair verdict" was impossible.

On April 23, the State Supreme Court granted a stay of execution of the boys to June 25, on a writ of certiorari, granted by Chief Justice Anderson to George W. Chamlee and Irving Schwab.

Where Will It End?

On June 4, the U. S. Supreme Court decided to review the case and set October 10, as the day for the arguments.

And as the day approaches, the eyes of the entire world is focused on two points. Washington, D. C. —where sit NINE MEN, and Kilby Prison—where wait NINE BOYS!

When and where will it end!

THE SCOTTSBORO CASE

By MARTIN BANK

NEW YORK, N. Y. Oct. 6.—The white rulers down South are experts in murder. Alabama is no exception. Just give them enough rope, a tree, and a poor Negro falsely accused of anything and they'll display their bestiality. They'll show how to maintain "white supremacy." How to keep the Negro people in bondage. How to plug them with terror, force them to work without wages; starve them; stamp upon them socially.

10-7-32

"Lynch them!" That's the motto of the capitalist class. The past reeks with the foul deeds of the white ruling class. The present proves them to be no less savage.

St. Louis, Mo.

In one monstrous gulp, the rulers of Alabama wants to snuff out the lives of the nine Negro Scottsboro boys. Not by the old method. No, not by the rope and faggot. Such technique would be too crude in this case—though there were many who argued for it. Their taste for blood makes the lynchers regret that the murderous orgy did not take place long ago. Nine ropes! Nine branches! Nine lynchings! Nine human bodies on fire! What a holiday for the white bosses! But this was denied them; and while regrets are murmured, the rulers feel pleased in the fact that another method of murder will do

the tric.

Legal lynching, it is called. A trumped up farcical trial, in a court controlled by the lynchers. A trial on horse-swapping day, with a mob of business men whooping up a lynch hysteria. A picked jury that dares not say anything but "guilty." Not a single Negro permitted on this jury; no sir! Not a friend or relative in this court room—no sir!

What did it matter that the boys averaged fifteen years—oldest twenty and the younge thirteen? The boys were Negroes. What did it matter they were unemployed, riding the freights, looking for jobs, trying to get money for their starving parents, sisters and brothers. The boys were Negroes. What did it matter if the white girls who were forced to accuse the boys of rape, were prostitutes? The boys were Negroes.

That is all that mattered. 'Blacks must be shown their place." This hideous tyranny has been the law of the South for years. With it Negro workers and farmers are expected to bow down, resigned to their poverty and misery. And so, rope and faggot temporarily stored away, the oily machinery of the court decided to use electric juice instead.

DEMONSTRATIONS IN PHILADELPHIA AND IN CHICAGO

Mass Marching as Part of World-Wide Day of Protest

Chicago and Philadelphia workers are getting into the world-wide campaign to release the Scottsboro boys and Mooney, with big demonstrations planned for Oct. 8, International Day of Struggle for their release. Similar demonstrations are arranged in every city. All workers should take part!

* * *

CHICAGO, Ill., Oct. 6.—Mass parades will start on International Scottsboro and Mooney Day, Saturday at 2 p.m. ,from 18th St. and Indiana, and from 51st St. and St Lawrence. Both parades will march to 38th St. and Prairie, where a mass demonstration will be held with Herbert Newton, Negro worker and Communist candidate for congress, and Henry Lightfoot, also a Communist candidate, will speak.

* * *

Philadelphia Demonstration.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Oct. 6.—A demonstration of Philadelphia workers for the release of the Scottsboro boys and of Tom Mooney will start here today at 7 p.m. at 23rd St. and Jefferson, and parade to. Thompson and 13th Sts.

Tomorrow (Friday) there will be a mass meeting for release of Mooney and the Scottsboro boys, at 8 p.m. at Broadway Arena.

Mother Mooney to Speak.

Speakers at Broadway Arena will include Mother Mooney, Richard B. Moore, Harry M. Wicks, Communist candidate for U. S. Senate, and C. Lippa, Communist district organizer in Philadelphia.

City-wide tag days to finance the drive to release the Scotsboro boys and Mooney will be held here October 8 and 9. All workers are urged to come Saturday at 2 p.m. and Sunday at 10 a.m. to one of the following stations: 1331 N. Franklin St., 995 N. Fifth St., 2456 N. 30th St., 2222 Master St., 3623 Market St., 1137 N. 41st St., 600 N. 55th St., 1747 N. Wilton St., 725 Carpenter St., 1208 Tasker St., 800 Ritner St.

MRS. WRIGHT AT WORLD CONGRESS

AMSTERDAM, Holland, Aug. 29—Mrs. Ada Wright, mother of two of the Scottsboro boys addressed the

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Daily Worker
9-30-32
New York

yesterday, and urged them to help fight American imperialism by fighting against the legal lynching of eight Negro boys in Alabama. The congress adopted a resolution calling for the release of the Scottsboro boys.

A Chinese seaman, delegate to the anti-war congress here roused great enthusiasm by a speech sharply attacking the French and British imperialist oppression of the Chinese people.

At the evening session yesterday the congress cheered the speeches of the leaders of the Invergordon mutiny in the British navy.

Workers from the Krupp arms factory in Germany addressed the congress, demanding the united front of all workers as the most effective weapon against war, and declaring that effective propaganda was necessary against the insidious arguments of the capitalists that armaments make work during times of industrial depression.

The 2,000 delegates hailed this declaration of Krupp workers by rising and singing the International.

EXTRAORDINARY

Argus 10-7-32
St. Louis, Mo.

Something extraordinary is to take place at the nation's capital next week. The United States Supreme court, the highst judicial body of the nation, is to sit in judgment on a case involving human lives, human rights and human liberties.

The very lives of seven Negroes who are in the death cell in Kilby prison, state of Alabama, hang in a balance. We are greatly concerned about the lives of these youths.Not only are we concerned, but there are thousands, yea millions, who are concerned about the outcome of this case, not that Negroes have not been executed before. We all know that they have gone to the electric chair and the hangsman's noose by the hundreds without a protest from the public, even though, in many instances, such deaths have been styled as "legal lynchings." But this is an extraordinary case, seven lives about to be snuffed out like the snap of a finger.

Everybody will admit that in the evidence upon which these Negroes were convicted there is at least an element of doubt as to their guilt. Every reasonable being can reason that these victims could not have had a fair trial when the court was surrounded by a bloodthristy mob and by persons who in open threats demanded that these boys be hanged. Nobody, we say, will grant that these youths have had a fair trial.

The United States Supreme court has gone on record in which it has said that where convictions had been under similar circumstances the defendants had not had a fair trial, but next Tuesday this court will have an extraordinary case before it. Heretofore the life of one individual has been involved, but Tuesday, the case will take on the aspect of what may be called "wholesale lynching." It is to be expected that subterfuges and legal technicalities will be raised by the state of Alabama in its endeavor to railroad these Negroes to the death chair, but legal technicalities are not instruments with which to play with peoples' lives. If there are any technicalities to be used in the case, it is reasonable to presume that the defense should be given the benefit of such technicalities.

In this comment, it is not our purpose nor intention to advise such an honorable body as the United States Supreme court, but we are giving expression as to what the public will expect in the light of the circumstances.

Knig[illegible] De[illegible]ends Sentences Given Scottsboro Negroes

Attorney General Presents State's Case Before Supreme Court

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.
10-11-32

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10—(AP)—Amid attentive silence from the bench and closely-packed spectators alike, opposing counsel today argued before the Supreme Court the cases of seven negroes condemned to death in Scottsboro, Ala., for assaults on two white girls.

"They were not given a fair trial," contended Walter Pollak, of New York, counsel for the negroes.

"They were," replied Atty. Gen. Thomas E. Knight, Jr., of Alabama.

Both cited precedent. Both reviewed the history of the case but their clashing contentions revolved about the legality of the hearing given the seven in the little Alabama town.

All through the court's session, officers outside closely scanned the line which sought admission to the court. In front of the Capital, other blue coats were prepared to act promptly if a demonstration were attempted.

Reports had it that communists planned to show their sympathy for the condemned men. No automobiles were allowed to park in the broad plaza. There was nothing, however, to interrupt the court's routine and only the packed room showed that it differed from the ordinary case. There was one other unusual feature. Not a question was asked by one of the nine justices. When the hearing was concluded and the next case called, the capacity audience that had filled the room all day quietly withdrew.

Many negroes were in that audience. Mary Mooney, mother of the California labor leader now serving sentence for the 1916 San Francisco bombing, was present. She said she was "interested in seeing that other mothers' sons get justice."

Several members of the Alabama Congressional delegation and former members were in the audience.

Pollak, counsel for the negroes, opened the oral argument immediately after the luncheon recess. The three main points emphasized in his contention of no fair trial were assertions that the negroes had been denied counsel until brought to trial that the public mind was inflamed by newspaper articles, making the presence of State militia necessary to prevent mob violence, and that there had been race discrimination because the juries which tried the three cases had not been examined as to race prejudice and no qualified negro had been permitted to serve as juror.

Atty. Gen. Knight, who argued the cases for the State, contradicted all material points urged by Pollak for asking that the trials and convictions be set aside.

Knight asserted the newspapers of the vicinity, in emphasizing the seriousness of the alleged crimes, called on the citizens to preserve order and permit the law to take its course. He declared counsel had been appointed to defend the men a week before they were brought to trial insisted the militia were present at the request of the Sheriff merely as a precautionary measure, and declared the highest court should not interfere with a verdict which had been sustained by the State Supreme Court.

He said the men had received a fair trial and that the Alabama courts should not be criticised for the strategy of counsel for the defense, who had acted within their rights in not challenging the trial juries to develop whether there was race prejudice.

Pollack insisted in addition to his main points that the trial court should have granted a change of venue to another court. Knight replied that this question had been fully considered by the State Supreme Court, which had concluded that the men had been deprived of none of their rights by being tried at Scottsboro.

NEW YORK HERALD-TRIBUNE
OCT 9 1932

3,500 Radicals In Protest Rally AtUnionSquare

Scottsboro Case Attacked, Mrs. Mooney Acclaimed as She Enters Throng

Police Preserve Order

Sheppard, Communist Candidate, Assails 2 Parties

A protest demonstration, called by the New York District of the International Labor Defense to demand freedom for seven Negroes sentenced to death in Scottsboro, Ala., a year ago for attacks on two white girls, drew more than 3,500 persons to Union Square yesterday. The crowd, which jammed Seventeenth Street from Fourth Avenue to Broadway, was quiet and orderly except for an occasional wild cheer as the more eloquent speakers unloosed particularly venomous phrases against dominating capitalism.

Captain William L. Heitzman, of the 4th Division, who has been in charge of Union Square meetings for years had twenty patrolmen and three sergeants lining the outskirts of the crowd to move loiterers on, but in no way antagonizing the crowd.

Henry Sheppard, Negro Communist candidate for Lieutenant Governor to[illegible]ical potshots at the two major parties, but devoted most of his time to denouncing the "turncoat qualities" of Norman Thomas and his Socialist cohorts.

The entrance of Mrs. Mary Mooney mother of Thomas J. Mooney, California labor leader imprisoned on a bombing charge, was the signal for uproarious cheering. "Mother" Mooney was scheduled to speak in Tom's cause, but was too ill to mount the platform, it was explained.

Richard P. Moore, a Negro, described as the "greatest orator in the Communist party, was the only speaker to review the Scottsboro case. He blamed "capitalist newspapers" for creating "the lynching sentiment in the South" and intimated distrust of the Supreme Court's sense of justice in his reference to the judges as "men grown gray in the service of capitalism." A resolution demanding the court to free "the seven innocent boys" was passed by an overwhelming roar.

The meeting ended with singing of the "Internationale," accompanied by the waving of several thousand clenched fists.

Lynchings - 1932
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Alabama

3703

Labor Sports Union Endorses October 8 As Scottsboro Day

Daily Worker 9-24-32

9-24-32

Plans Special Measures for Militant Support of Mass Fight to Free 9 Negro Lads

New York, N.Y.

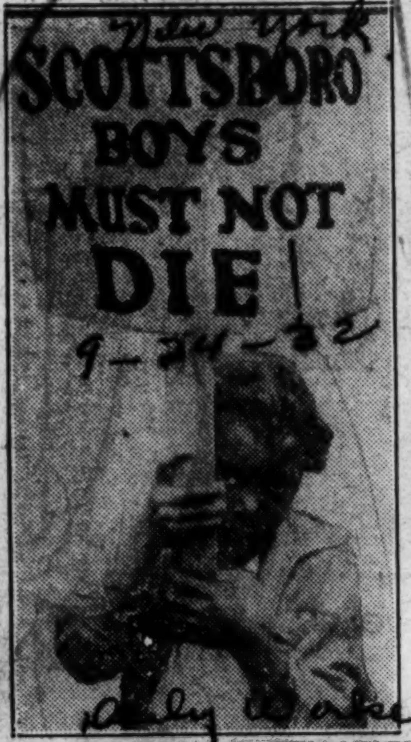
Calls on Worker Athletes to Stage Runs as Part of World-Wide Demonstrations

NEW YORK.—In a statement issued yesterday, the National Executive Board of the Labor Sports Union heartily endorsed Oct. 8th as International Scottsboro day and called upon its members and all worker sportsmen to join and support the demonstrations on that day for the release of the nine Scottsboro boys. The statement declares:—

"The attempt to lynch the nine Negro boys through legal methods is the outstanding symbol of the efforts of the boss class to divide labor and to terrorize the Negro masses.

"The Labor Sports Union pledges its support not only to the struggle for the freedom of the Scottsboro boys but to the struggle against Jim-Crowism on the sport fields. The Labor Sports Union has helped to initiate the struggle against discrimination against Negro swimmers in swimming pools.

"The National Executive Board instructs all districts of the Labor Sports Union to organize Scottsboro-Mooney street runs in conjunction with the Oct. 8th demonstrations. In these street runs, worker athletes are to run through the main streets of the towns and cities with slogans affixed to their jerseys: "Free the Scottsboro Boys!" "Free Tom Mooney!"


SCOTTSBORO BOYS MUST NOT DIE!
New York
9-24-32
Daily Worker

TO PLAN FIGHT FOR CIVIL RIGHTS SCOTTSBORO NINE

Daily Worker

Prepare Huge Protest Meetings for October 10

9-22-32

BIRMINGHAM, Sept. 23.—Despite the police terror against the Scottsboro defense campaign, including raids on the Southern office of the International Labor Defense in this city and the arrests of workers active in the campaign, the ILD is energetically pushing the preparations for a United [illegible]-Southern Conference on Oct. 2. The conference is called for the purpose of further de- [illegible] the Scottsboro defense campaign and organizing a struggle for civil and political rights for the Negro and white masses of the South. It will be held at the Masonic Temple at 17th St. and Fourth Ave., North, beginning at 2 p. m., Oct 2

New York

N.Y.

Invitations to send delegates to the conference have been sent to many labor organizations and Negro clubs, lodges, etc Invitations also have been sent to a number of prominent intellectuals, including Sherwood Anderson. It is understood that several members of the Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners will also attend. The Committee is headed by Theadore Dreiser.

Fight Hunger-Lynching Program

The call for the conference points out that the bosses are trying to break the resistance of the workers and farmers to their hunger program in the South with a murderous terror, directed especially against the Negroes in an attempt to prevent white and Negro workers from uniting for joint struggle against their common enemy. The courts and police are being increasingly used to carry out legal lynchings and police murders of Negro toilers, as witnessed in the Scottsboro case, the revival of the attempt to electrocute the Atlanta Six (four white and two Negro workers) for the "crime" of organizing Negro and white workers together; the recent indictment of Angelo Herndon, a Negro youth, on the same charge; the police and landlord attack on the Camp Hill, Ala., croppers resulting in the murder of Ralph Gray.

Form United Front

The conference will discuss and organize a United Front on the following burning questions in the South: (1) Freedom of speech, assembly and press for the workers and farmers in the South; (2) Repeal of the vagrancy laws, the abolition of the chain gang, convict labor camps and third degree methods; (3) Release of the nine Scottsboro boys, and struggle against the national oppression and lynch terror against Negroes; (4) Freedom for Tom Money and all the class-war prisoners; (5) the right of all people to vote without payment of poll tax, without property or other qualifications, regardless of color or race.

The conference will also aid in the preparations for International Scottsboro Day on October 8 and the organizing of demonstrations in the South on that day, two days before the case comes up before the United States Supreme Court for review of the lynch verdicts.

COURT CONSIDERS SCOTTSBORO CASE

Telegraph

Arguments For and Against Seven Condemned Negroes Heard by Highest Tribunal

10-11-32

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10. (AP)—Amid attentive silence from bench and closely packed spectators alike, opposing counsel Monday argued before the supreme court the cases of seven Negroes condemned to death in Scottsboro, Ala., for assaults on two white girls.

Macon Ga.

"They were not given a fair trial," contended Walter Pollak, of New York, counsel for the Negroes.

"They were," replied Attorney General Thomas E. Knight, Jr., of Alabama.

Both cited precedent. Both reviewed the history of the case but their clashing contentions revolved about the legality of the hearing given the seven in the little Alabama town.

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No Demonstration Made

Reports had it that Communists planned to show their sympathy for the condemned men. There was nothing, however, to interrupt the court's routine and only the packed room showed that it differed from the ordinary case. There was one other unusual feature. Not a question was asked by one of the nine justices. When the hearing was concluded the capacity audience quietly withdrew.

Many Negroes were in that audience. Mary Mooney, the mother of the California labor leader now serving sentence for the 1916 San Francisco bombing, was present. She said she was "interested in seeing that other mothers' sons get justice." Several members of the Alabama congressional delegation and former members were in the audience.

The three main points emphasized by Pollak in support of his contention of no fair trial were assertions that the Negroes had been denied counsel until brought to trial, that the public mind was inflamed by newspaper articles, making the presence of state militia necessary to prevent mob violence, and that there had been race discrimination because the juries which tried the three cases had not been examined as to race prejudice, and no qualified Negro had been permitted to serve as juror.

Knight's Reply to Charges

Attorney General Knight, who argued the cases for the state, asserted the newspapers of the vicinity, in emphasizing the seriousness of the alleged crimes, called on the citizens to preserve order and permit the law to take its course. He declared counsel had been appointed to defend the men a week before they were brought to trial, insisted the militia were present at the request of the sheriff merely as a precautionary measure, and declared the highest court should not interfere with a verdict which had been sustained by the state supreme court.

He said the men had received a fair trial and that the Alabama courts should not be criticized for the strategy of counsel for the defense, who had acted within their rights, in not challenging the trial juries to develop whether there was race prejudice.

Pollak insisted, in addition to his main points, the trial court should have granted a change of venus to another county. Knight replied that this question had been fully considered by the state supreme court which had concluded that the men had been deprived of none of their rights by being tried at Scottsboro.

By far the major portion of the cases passed on Monday by the supreme court were dismissed, but the court decided it would hold about 35 on its docket to be ruled on later.

Among the latter was the appeal of a number of chain stores against Florida's tax on them, and the order of a lower federal court prohibiting Oklahoma state officials from interfering with the operation of a toll bridge across the South Canadian river between Lexington and Purcell.

U.S. COURT TO RULE ON DOOMED 7

Oct 9, 1932

Sunday News

New York City

(Special to The News)

Washington, D. C., Oct. 8.—Monday is the day when man's highest tribunal in this land will begin deliberation upon the fate of seven colored men, alive since June 24 by grace of the United States Supreme Court.

The Court's decision last May to review the case of the seven convicted of assaulting two white girls near Scottsboro, Ala., when it reconvened in the Fall meant a new stay of the execution set for the 24th of June.

Only One Question Before Them.

Though Communist propaganda has sought to rouse international indignation over the Scottsboro case as an example of race hatred and oppression, the Supreme Court justices listening to arguments Monday, will concern themselves with only one question:

Whether or not the men were convicted fairly on the evidence presented and as their trial was conducted.

Charges Mock Trials.

Walter Pollak, New York attorney, who will present the plea of the condemned men to the court, charges that the constitutional rights of his clients were violated in mock trials where race prejudice influenced the jury to such a degree that the death verdict was inevitable.

Attorney General Thomas E. Knight, of Alabama, will argue that the State Supreme Court's decision, upholding the death sentence, means that Alabama is ready to stand upon the fairness of the trial given these colored defendants charged with the rape of white women.

Knight believes that the United States Supreme Court will find no facts or circumstances which will warrant a reversal on the courts of Alabama.

Cites Similar Case.

In citing precedents in his plea for a reversal of the Scottsboro convictions, Pollak emphasizes the case of killing a white man during the "Elaine riots" in 1919.

However, Attorney General Knight can look to the record of the United States Supreme Court's finding in the Leo Frank case in 1915 when its justices refused to overrule the courts of Georgia in a case where local sentiment in some communities approached mob spirit.

Three facts, which crusaders who have espoused the cause of the convicted men rely upon to count heavily with the Court, are that the defendants were given no opportunity to consult with friends or relatives; that no serious effort was made to determine whether or not the jury was prejudiced; that counsel made no effort to sum up in their behalf.

A majority of the Alabama Supreme Court held that these considerations did not prove an unfair trial. But the dissenting opinion written by the Chief Justice is now supplying ammuntion for the defense.

Scottsboro Week Tour to Rally Masses in So. Calif.

10

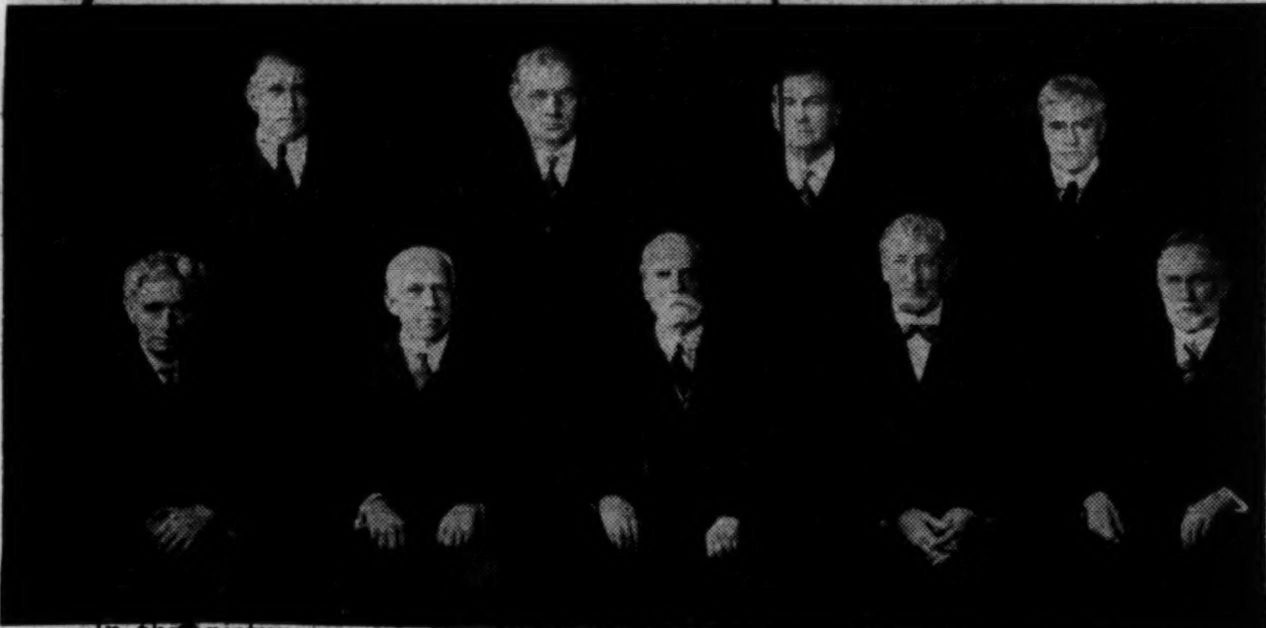
New York, N.Y.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Sept. 3.—A Scottsboro Tour is being arranged under the auspices of the Youth Committee of the International Labor Defense 14th District, the Young Communist League, and the Blue Blouses. The purpose of this tour is to acquaint the people of the Southern California with the details of the Scottsboro frame-up.

There will be thirteen young workers on this tour. Eleven of them are the Blue Blouses, an agit-prop group of young actors. These will present four skits at every city they stop. Their program consists of a Scottsboro act, an Election Campaign skit, a skit called "Charity" and another called "Liberty in the USA." The other two in the party will be speakers.

This campaign began on Oct. 1st and ends on Oct. 10tth. They will be at Ontario, Colton, San Bernardina, Riverside, Santa Monica, Venice, Ventura, Santa Barbara, Bakersfield, Pasadena, Monrovia, Belvedere, Watts, Santa Anna, San Diego, Montebello, Los Angeles, and San Pedro.

NINE MEN—"Our Fate Is In Your Hands"



In this picture we see the NINE MEN—Justices of the United States Supreme Court, before whom the case of the Scottsboro boys will be argued Thursday. Seated, left to right, they are Justice Louis D. Brandeis, Justice Willis Vanderventer, Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes, Justice J. C. McReynolds, Justice George Sutherland. Standing, left to right: Justice Owen D. Roberts, Justice Pierce Butler, Justice Harlan F. Stone and Justice Benjamin N. Cardozo.

Courier 10-8-32

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Help the "Daily" Continue Fight for the Lives of Scottsboro Boys!

Daily Worker 10-6-32

New York, N.Y.

OCTOBER 8TH! World Scottsboro Day!

Hundreds of thousands of workers thruout the world, Negro and white, taking part in mass demonstrations, protesting the attempt by the American ruling class to legally lynch nine innocent young Negro workers.

For a year and a half have the workers staved off the murder of the nine Scottsboro boys. In their mass demonstrations, in all their protest actions, the workers have found the Daily Worker one of their main weapons, one of their chief means of expressing their determination not to allow the Scottsboro boys to die.

A giant voice to rally the workers and the poor farmers in the battle for the lives of the Scottsboro boys, and in the fight against oppression of the Negro masses, and of all workers.

That's the Daily Worker!

* * *

EXPOSING the lies of the capitalist press the insidious poison of many Negro reformist papers; combatting the class decisions of capitalist courts, and the knifing in the back of the Scottsboro boys by such shrewd Negro misleaders as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Daily Worker has carried on a consistent fight for the freedom of these framed youths.

Without the Daily Worker, it would have been impossible to rally thousands of Negro and white workers to save the lives of the Scottsboro boys. Without the Daily Worker, the sharpest tool in the hands of the workers, it would be impossible to organize Southern workers for a relentless fight against lynch terror.

* * *

THE DAILY WORKER, indispensible i daily struggles of the workers, is in the most serious financial crisis in its history. Upon workers, and workers only does the "Daily" depend for its further existence.

In its appeal for $40,000, which it must have to meet its tremendous deficit, the Daily Worker, up to Tuesday ,has received only $17,191, less than half the quito. It is vital, therefore, that all workers, readers, and sympathizers spring to its aid now—with dollars, half-dollars, quarters and dimes.

Keep the Daily Worker alive to organize further the struggles against race discrimination, lynch law, and all forms of boss persecution.

Use the coupon on the inside page, collect funds, and rush them into the Daily Worker, 50 East 13th Street, New York City.

COLUMBUS, O.
CITIZEN

OCT 10 1932

RACE FEELING IS BLAMED FOR DEATH VERDICT

Lawyers for Seven Negro Boys Contend They Did Not Get Fair Trial.

By RUTH FINNEY.
Scripps-Howard Staff Writer.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10.—Seven Negro boys who face death in the electric chair were convicted at Scottsboro, Ala., in an atmosphere of hostility and mob excitement which violated their constitutional rights, lawyers who have come to their defense will tell the U. S. Supreme Court in asking for a new trial.

The National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners is seeking to aid the boys following trials in which no employed counsel presented their case and little was done in their behalf.

Its lawyers, Walter H. Pollak and Carl S. Stern of New York and George W. Chamlee of Chattanooga, will argue that there was no fair, impartial and deliberate trial.

Accused By Girls.

Within a few hours after the boys had been taken from a freight train by a sheriff's posse, following complaint from white men that the Negroes had thrown them from the train, two white girls charged the Negroes had attacked them on the train. Thereafter events moved swiftly.

A local newspaper printed the story referring to "nine black fiends" and their "revolting crime." A threatening crowd gathered around the jail.

The sheriff asked for troops and the governor sent three companies of the National Guard. It was in this atmosphere that the boys were indicted.

National Guard on Duty.

The boys were arrested March 25. They were indicted March 31. On April 6 they were brought to trial in a little town jammed with people from nearby counties. The National Guard was patrolling the streets and holding the crowd back from the Court House.

The morning of the first trial the boys were still without counsel. A lawyer from Chattanooga who "came down here as a friend of people who are interested," was asked by the court to defend them. He was unwilling, did not know much of the case, nor of Alabama procedure. Finally he and one member of the local bar, obviously reluctant, were assigned to defend the boys.

They asked for a change of venue and exhibited the articles local newspapers had been printing as evidence that a fair trial could not be had in that county. The judge immediately ruled against them.

No Defense Witnesses.

There were no witnesses for the defense. The accused boys told their stories, denying guilt, but that was all.

None of the white boys who had been on the train were called to testify, though their names were known.

The jury that tried the first two boys brought in a verdict of guilty with recommendation for the death sentence, while another jury selected to try another group of the defendants was sitting in the jury room a short distance away.

The next day another jury brought in a second guilty verdict for more of the boys. The last trial was begun and ended the same day.

"The question here is not of the petitioners' Innocence or guilt," says the brief filed in behalf of a new trial. "It is solely the question whether their constitutional rights have beeen preserved. The consideration that the results reached in trials wholly unprepared and essentially undefended were—as tested even by their own records—wrong results is not, as such, material. But if jury and judge are to proceed in the constitutional sense fairly, they must proceed calmly, deliberately — with discrimination.

And the Alabama chief justice, finding . . . that the juries' actions revealed 'no discrimination,' correctly deduced that the trials were not in the constitutional sense fair and impartial."

Alabama

3704

Lynchings-1932

9.

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Holland Greets Scottsboro Negro Mother

Daily Worker
New York

By J. LOUIS ENGDAHL.

HOLLAND'S radio audience is served by two broadcasting stations. One of these is VARA (United Labor Radio Association) controlled by the Dutch social-democrats. It was a far cry from the Scottsboro meetings forbidden broken up b ythe socialist police in Germany, tot he socialist invitation to Mrs. Ada Wright in Holland to speak over their radio. Thus the Scottsboro appeal was broadcast through the air for the first time in Europe. New York

Socialist Maneuver

It is clear that this is a maneuver of the socialists in Holland followed closely on the heels of the lead given by the chairman of the Second Socialist International, Emile Vandervelde, in opening his arms to the Scotsboro Mother in Brussels, and his heart to the cause of the Negro boys facing the electric chair. Suddenly the columns of Het Volk (The People), central organ of the Social-Democratic Party of Holland began to burst with Vandervelde publicity, as if the former socialist premier of Belgium's King Albert had taken over the Scottsboro campaign. Het Volk featured the Scottsboro case with pictures but omitted mention entirely of the International Red Aid.

Home Made Translations

How deliberate this actually was became crystal clear with the translation of the Scottsboro Mother's appeal over the radio, when the social-democratic translator provided by the station itself and who had been given an advance copy of her speech, declared that it was the Socialists who had come to the aid of the Scottsboro Negro boys and were defending them and once more omitting all mention of the International Red Aid. 7-25-32

The basis for this campaign of deception was to be found in the tremendous mass support of the Scottsboro campaign in Holland as revealed in the demonstrations held [illegible], Amsterdam, Delft the Hague, and even in the farming districts of Friesland, in north Holland, in St. Anna Parochic Beets and Appelscha.

10,000 March.

In Rotterdam the police denied the workers the right to demonstrate in the streets following the great mass meeting. The possibilities of such demonstrations became clear in Amsterdam, where fully 10,000 workers marched through the streets to the post office building following the mass meeting in the great hall of the Diamond Exchange. The meetings at Delft and the Hague were unprecedented.

The response that swept over Friesland, the northern agricultural district of Holland, however, was a revelation. Friesland was one of the seven original free states of Holland. It is one-eleventh of the country with 400,000 population. As an independent free state it was the first to recognize the independence of the American colonies following the war of independence against Great Britain, 1776.

As an indication of its gratitude the new nation sent a tablet which still rests in the wall of the capitol of Friesland, at Leeurwerden, bearing the inscription: "Memorial of Gratitude from the United States of America to the State of Friesland for Its Recognition of the Independence of the United States—1785."

"Send Tablet Back to U. S."

All of the Scottsboro mass meetings held voted unanimously to send this tablet back to the United States government at Washington, as the murderer and jailer of workers.

The Scottsboro issue will be raised in the Dutch Parliament by the two Communist members, David J. Wynkoop and Louis De Visser. The parliament of Queen Wilhelmina's government, headed by the Catholic Center and its coalition of Christian parties, continues a social-democratic opposition of 26 out of 100 members. It will be forced to take an open stand on this issue.

Negro Workers Organize.

It is significant that many of the meetings in Holland were organized by the Negro worker, now living in Holland, but who had come from Surinan, the Dutch West Indian Negro colony. A native of Indonesia, the Dutch West Indian colony, also spoke at many meetings, thus bringing forward the bloody oppression of colored peoples in the colonies of Dutch imperialism.

The Scottsboro Mother's visit to Holland coincided with the wave of indignation sweeping the working class masses of the country over the police murder of the agricultural worker, John DeYonge, during a demonstration against wage reductions for agricultural workers. DeYonge was first wounded by the police and then fatally stabbed through the heart by a police saber. Out of a town of 7,000 population more than 3,000 came to the funeral, with delegations from Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Haarlen and other cities.

1,000 Applications Pour In.

Thus the workers of Holland, who feel the oppression at home, develop closer unity with the outraged masses in the colonial countries, which brings the Scottsboro persecution to their very doors. During the meetings addressed by the Scottsboro Negro Mother more than 1,000 applications for membership poured in, the Amsterdam meeting alone yielding 350 members. The Scottsboro Committee of liberals and intellectuals was also strengthened at a special meeting presided over by Professor G. Mannoury of the University of Amsterdam.

3,000 PROTEST LYNCH VERDICT

Daily Worker
5-31-32

Mooney and Scottsboro Meeting in Portland

New York, N.Y.

PORTLAND, Ore., May 30.—Three thousand workers demonstrated here at the Public Auditorium in militant protest against the Scotsboro lynch verdicts and the continued imprisonment of Tom Mooney. The meeting was marked with the greatest enthusiasm and fighting spirit.

The workers greeted with thunderous cheers an appeal from Tom Mooney, read to the assemblage by his aged mother, Mrs. Mary Mooney. They demonstrated their solidarity with the Negro masses and the Scottsboro boys by spontaneously rising in a tremendous ovation which Richard B. Moore, Negro orator and revolutionary leader, was introduced.

Six hundred signed pledges to support the Scottsboro-Mooney campaign led by the International Labor Defense.

Adopt Resolutions

Resolutions were unanimously adopted protesting the decision of Rolph denying a pardon to Mooney, the Scottsboro lynch verdicts, the attempt by the U. S. government to deport Edith Berkman, and several local workers. Other resolutions protested against the persecution of Negro and foreign born workers, and demanded the repeal of the Oregon Syndicalist law.

* * *

Fill Frisco Hall

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal.—One thousand Negro and white workers filled Folk Hall last Tuesday at the Mooney-Scottsboro mass meeting to hear Richard Moore denounce the murderous verdict of the Alabama Supreme Court condemning the seven innocent Negro Scotsboro boys to die in the electric chair. Mother Mary Mooney was greeted with tremendous enthusiasm as she was led to the platform.

* * *

Oakland Parade, Meeting, Draws Thousands

Oakland, Cal.—Orders from Chief of Police Drew of Oakland, prohibiting the use of floats "ridiculing the state officials," or placards "announcing that Tom Mooney is innocent" did not prevent the holding of the huge Mooney-Scottsboro parade last Wednesday, which included 138 cars and 350 workers on foot, and caused a turnout of thousands of workers throughout the Negro section of West Oakland. One thousand workers, including 350 Negroes, jammed both Alcatraz and Fraternity Halls, while another thousand attended the overflow street meeting.

Oklahoma City, Okla.
NEWS

JUN 1 1932

Liberal Law

THE supreme court has granted to seven Negro youths a review of the gallows sentences imposed on them by a Scottsboro, Ala., jury for alleged assault on two white women.

In this case the test of the Anglo-Saxon ideal of justice—a fair trial—was squarely posed, and the court, whatever it may decide next fall, can only be praised for deciding to consider in full the implications of Alabama's alleged outburst of racial hatred.

The appeal charges the defendants were held incommunicado, denied the privilege of counsel before trial, indicted while a "mob" was in the courtroom, rushed to trial, convicted on evidence since discredited and denied a change of venue from the highly-inflamed community. A band outside the courthouse, according to the appellants, played "There'll Be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight," to celebrate the verdict of death.

French Workers Greet Scottsboro Mother on Tour for Framed Son

Daily Worker

(Cable to Daily Worker.)

6-8-32

PARIS, June 7. — A large demonstration of French workers, headed by leading functionaries of the French Red Aid, greeted Mrs. Ada Wright, Scottsboro mother, and J. Louis Engdahl, general secretary of the International Labor Defense upon their arrival in Paris.

New York, N.Y.

Meetings had previously been held in Germany and Czecho-Slovakia, despite the refusal of the authorities to allow Mrs. Wright and Engdahl to address these meetings.

COMMUNIST TACTICS

Turning the searchlight of public opinion upon judicial acts savoring of prejudice and bias usually brings good results. But any attempt to coerce judicial decision by public pressure will arouse the resentment of all Americans, white and black, who have paid a great price for the independence of their judges. Such an attempt in America will injure any cause it is used in.

Informer 6-18-32

The Alabama Supreme Court never had a fair chance to weigh the record in the Scottsborough cases. From the time the appeal was taken, the Justices were threatened, dared, and generally annoyed by telegrams and letters. Then guards had to be placed around the court to protect the silence of their ordinarily inviolate sanctorium of deliberation. To believe that human men could decide a case strictly on its merits under such circumstances is to ignore all of the laws of psychology.

It begins to seem certain that the communists will use the same tactics on the Supreme Court of the United States. That will be a serious mistake. The Supreme Court must resist and resent any attempt to coerce its decision. Besides, these tactics do violence to our concepts of an independent judiciary. We cannot permit propaganda of Communists to usurp the judicial functions of our highest courts.

Houston Texas

Communists are fairer in their attitude toward Negroes than any other group in America. But Negroes should not let that keep them from questioning their methods. It must be conceded that Communism is working in Russia. But Negroes must not forget that methods of governing which are proper to one nation, with its habits of thought, are not transferable to another nation with different concepts and habits of thought. Attempts to coerce our courts will injure the Negro more than any other group.

ADA, OKLA.
NEWS

JUN 12 1932

Every nation is supposed to be able to manage its own affairs but since the communists have grown strong enough to be troublesome it has become the custom to meddle with everything that promises to stir trouble. A particularly revolting criminal case in one country calls for a lot of demonstrations in all others. Just now the reds are worked up over the conviction of seven Alabama negroes who are under sentence of death for attacking white girls. The case is one of the worst on record hence attracted attention. This gives the communists their cue and they are making the most of it. They have made considerable noise about it in the United States and now have taken the case to Europe. The mother of two of the condemned negroes is touring Europe trying to stir up demonstrations but a few days ago was denied entry into Beligum. That is a precedent that other nations might follow to the advantage of all. The fate of the negroes rests with the governor of Alabama and the case has no place in European affairs.

LAUNCH NEW SCOTTSBORO PLEA

Courier 6-18-32

MONTGOMERY, Ala., June 16—A new plea in behalf of seven Alabama youths condemned to death for an attack on two white girls near Scottsboro, Ala., March 25, 1931, reached Governor B. M. Miller's office from Philadelphia, Pa., Wednesday.

Pittsburgh Pa.

The plea contained 9,620 signatures and 5,180 group indorsements assembled by the Scottsboro case committee of Philadelphia and transmitted to the governor in one package. The indorsements were elaborately bound in imitation leather.

BRITONS' AID SOUGHT IN SCOTTSBORO CASE

NEW YORK, Aug. 5.—(AP)—Gabriel Carritt, Oxford student, and son of Professor E. F. Carritt, of Oxford, sailed today to enlist British authors and artists in the legal fight to free nine Scottsboro negroes, who have been in the death house in Kilby prison, Alabama, for more than a year.

8-6-32

They were convicted of having criminally attacked two white girls who were riding on the same freight train from Chattanooga, Tenn., to Paint Rock, Ala.

Carritt, who has been studying psychology at Columbia University for the past year, said he will organize in England a sub-committee of the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners, which, with the International Labor Defense, has taken up the cause of the nine negroes.

Among the Britons Carritt hopes to induce to join him are H. G. Wells, G. B. Shaw, John Masefield, Professor Gilbert Murray, Aldous Huxley and John Galsworthy.

Ada Wright to Tour Spain for Scottsboro Boys

Daily Worker New York City 8/5/32

NEW YORK, Aug. 4.—Ada Wright, mother of two Scottsboro boys, and J. Louis Engdahl, national secretary of the International Labor Defense, have completed a schedule of Scottsboro-Mooney meetings in Denmark and are now on their way to Spain in their International European tour to rouse the protest of the workers of the world against the frame-up of the nine Scottsboro boys and the continued imprisonment of Tom Mooney, according to a radiogram received today by the national office of the International Labor Defense here.

INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE TO BEGIN INTENSIVE DRIVE TO SAVE SCOTTSBORO BOYS, OCTOBER 8 AND 9

Journal and Guide Norfolk Va.

9-3-32

National Convention Expects Delegates From All Parts Of Country; Opening Day To Be "International Day Of Demonstration"

NEW YORK, N. Y.—The Scottsboro case will be the central issue at the fifth national convention of the International Labor Defense, to be held in Cleveland October 8 and 9. Plans announced last week by the organization mark the convention as the culminating point of the intensive drive on behalf of the boys, whose case comes up for review October 10.

Negro organizations especially are invited by the I. L. D. to send delegates to this convention, to hear and participate in the discussion of plans on this and other major campaigns of defense. Organizations are also invited to send delegates to the District Conventions, which will be held during the month of September in preparation for the national convention. District conventions already arranged are as follows, others will be announced later.

Philadelphia, which includes Baltimore and Washington, (District office Washington Square Bldg., Seventh and Chestnut Streets), September 17 and 18; Detroit (District office 1343 East Ferry Street), the same dates; Cleveland (District office 1426 West Third Street), September 24 and 25; Chicago, (District office 23 South Lincoln Street), the same dates as Cleveland; Pittsburgh, District office 611 Penn Street), October 2.

The International Labor Defense is an organization of mass struggle for the defense of class war prisoners. Since its organization in 1925 it has fought against the imprisonment and persecution of workers regardless of their race, nationality, or color, their religion or their political belief. It fights for free speech, freedom of the press, and assembly.

Legal steps have been taken by I. L. D. attorneys on behalf of the Scottsboro boys, the six Atlanta prisoners, Euel Lee, and others. In the case of the Scottsboro boys, an international campaign has been launched, and protest aroused in every country of Europe and the Americas against the legal lynching attempted against them. The case has been fought through the lower courts, the Alabama State Supreme Court, and is now being brought before the U. S. Supreme Court. Reversal of lower court decisions have been obtained for two of the boys already.

October 8, the opening day of the National Convention, is also set aside throughout the world as an International Day of Demonstration, in behalf of the Scottsboro boys. Mass demonstrations will be held in many cities in the United States, Europe, and the Americas, demanding their release.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
NEWS

SEP 29 1932

EDITOR: Worldwide interest has been centered on the fate of nine obscure Negro boys of Scottsboro, Ala., because their case is a powerful symbol of lynch-justice and Negro oppression in the south. Their fortunes are followed by workers of all races to the ends of the earth. So powerful has been the demand for their vindication from the false statutory charge that condemns them to death that on Oct. 10 the Supreme Court of the United States will review the findings of the Alabama court.

Seven of these boys lie in the death house, the oldest of them 20, the youngest 14. In less than 15 days from the day of their arrest they were sentenced amidst threat of mob lynching. Positive evidence is available that the two women plaintiffs were coerced into bringing false charges. No witnesses were called for the boys.

On behalf of these boys, during the coming week, efforts will be made by hundreds of organizations comprising millions of workers and liberals of all races, to focus public attention on these cases, to enlist the protection of the Supreme Court and to raise funds for the cost of the appeal.

In San Francisco, a parade and mass meeting will be held at Civic Center, the afternoon of Oct. 8, under the auspices of the Scottsboro defense committee. The National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners will co-operate the following week with a public performance of the play, "Scottsboro Limited," written especially around the case.

Noel Sullivan, Lincoln Steffens, Col. Charles Erskine Scott Wood, Sara Bard Field, the poet, and other prominent members of the California branch of the national committee will actively assist in these efforts to save the lives of the Scottsboro boys.—Orrick Johns, secretary.

Lynchings-1932
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Alabama

The Fight for Right of Free Speech in Birmingham, Ala.

Daily Worker 11-5-32

A Discussion of Past Experience and Future Tasks "For a Big Vote for Foster-Ford on Nov. 8"

By NAT ROSS.

IN THE South, the impoverished both white and Negro (and especially the later) are denied the most elementary democratic rights. It is therefore necessary in order to build a really powerful mass movement against the ruling class to make a sharp fight for the A. B. C. rights of the Southern toilers.

SOME MISTAKEN IDEAS.

In this brief article I want to deal with one small part of this question, namely, the recent fight for free speech (and assembly) in Birmingham. First, we must mention a few wrong ideas held by some comrades which had to be overcome before and during this struggle if we were to have any success.

1.—Some comrades said we could not come out in the open because the ruling class was too strong and united, with the Democratic Party in full control. They said we were too weak and the workers would be afraid to make the fight. Quick developments soon proved that this was wrong. At the same time it should be mentioned right here that of the dozen arrests in Birmingham in August and September every one, including new workers including some who were badly beaten, came out with a more determined spirit than ever.

2.—Other comrades said that the Party will be illigal before the Revolution anyway so we might as well get used to underground work and stay where we are now.

3.—There was also the remark that the fight for democratic rights is a liberal fight and not a revolutionary one.

4.—And finally we had some 'bold' comrades who wanted to break out in the open on all fronts in Birmingham "all at once." These are the same comrades who don't ask for permits when it is necessary, who want downtown demonstrations when there is no organizational base in the neighborhoods or shops. These same comrades are the ones who think conspirative work is "cowardly," and do not see that conspirative work, small committee meetings, tight organizational forms, secret inner meetings etc. are necessary precisely to develop the mass fight for legality.

* * *

The moving of the Southern District of the International Labor Defense from Chattanooga to a downtown office in Birmingham and the calling of the All-Southern Conference for Civil and Political Rights on October 2, at the big Colored Masonic Temple, was the first shot in the fight, and was to be followed on October 9, with the Communist election rally with Foster speaking at the popular Lyric Theatre. The All-Southern Conference was called to plan action in the fight for free speech, against the barbarous Southern prison methods, for Scottsboro freedom and for Negro rights, for the right to vote without payment of poll tax.

THE BOSSES PREPARE A TERROR DRIVE

The Birmingham ruling class led by the Tennessee Coal and Iron company (United States Steel) became enraged. The demands of the conference found a warm reaction in the bitter hearts of the oppressed Southern people. The I. L. D. was calling on the white workers to come to the front in the fight for Negro rights. The struggle for Scottsboro freedom was being brought right into the home of the lynch masters. Mrs. Montgomery, Scottsboro mother, spoke at a number of successful mees in Birmingham preparatory to the Conference. One of these meetings held in the open air with an attendance of over 200 was attended by the police also but they did not dare interfere, however.

The first step in the terror drive of the police was the raid of the I. L. D. office, the confiscation of literature and the arrest of a number of comrades. This was followed the next day by the lying and provocative statement that the arresting officers had received threats on their lives (presumably from the "Reds"). This, of ocurse, was laying the basis and preparing the "public mind" for police violence against the Foster meeting and the I. L. D. conference.

* * *

FOLLOWING this the Ku Klux Klan was dragged out of the grave and brought to life in a car parade thru Birmingham, distributing handbills declaring that the Conference and the Foster meeting would not be tolerated. Further the K.K.K. even sent a wire to Comrade Foster warning him to stay out of Birmingham on October 9. Chief of Detectives Cole tried to force the closing of the Masonic Temple with the threat that the meeting, if held, would be smashed even if "the police had to shoot to kill." Another broadside was hurled at the Communist Party by the so-called Inter-Racial Commission in Alabama

RALLY BEHIND FIGHTING SLOGANS

On October 2, despite the presence of 150 police and dicks with machine guns, etc., 300 Negro and 50 white workers got thru the cordon of police and attended the historic conference. At the same time from 500 to 1,000 workers were prevented and intimidated from entering the hall. Again on October 9, 1,000 Negroes and 250 white workers attended the Communist rally. Here, too, the presence of about 50 police in front of the theatre intimidated a good number of workers. The meetnig was so enthusiastic that despite the fact that Comrade Hathaway (substituted for Foster) was held up by the New Orleans police the night before, the police and the K.K.K. didn't dare to attack the meeting. These "heroes" sneakingly threw out some stink bombs to disrupt the meeting.

MASS ACTION ANSWERS POLICE THREATS

Why is it that both the I.L.D. Conference and the Communist Rally were not smashed? First, immediately after the raid on the I.L.D. office and the arrest of the comrades, a mass protest campaign was started, approximately 75 resolutions were sent from clubs, churches, unemployed and other organizations from Birmingham and from Southern farming communities. Here it should be noted that the Socialist Party showed its true colors when its candidate for Congress said that while he "believed in free speech" he wouldn't protest against the police threats on the Conference. This showed clearly that the S. P. in its own way is helping the Democrats to carry out the jim-crow terror policy of the ruling class, while the Communist Party is the only Party which was fighting for free speech and was carrying on in practice the Fourth plank of its national election demands. Most important, however, the Conference and meeting were not smashed and the murder plans of the police and K.K.K. came to haught because of the tremendous mass response of the Birmingham workers at both the meeting and the Conference.

MISTAKES IN THE WORK

In all of this activity a number of serious mistakes were made. First and foremost, inadequate building of the Party during this activities and in particular failure to make contact with the workers at the Conference and meeting (partly due to police conditions). Secondly, we did not place sufficient emphasis on winning the white workers for this struggle. We didn't clearly see that at the particular moment the key to winning the white workers for the struggle for democratic rights, which includes primarily the struggle for equal rights for Negroes was by developing relief activities among the unemployed in the blocks and building our widespread shop contact into committees of struggle against wage cuts, and tying this up with the whole struggle for democratic rights.

* * *

AFTER the success in the fight for free speech it becomes necessary to raise this struggle on a higher plan. The ILD must become the main instrument in the struggle for the legalty of the revolutionary movement in Birmingham and in the South. It must become a truly mass organization including in its ranks, not only Communists and sympathizers, but also non-revolutionary workers and middle class elements of all political and religious faiths and even certain "liberal" elements who accept its minimum program. Mass defense struggles can be led with such elements, provided the Party gives close guidance. In the South in partcular, the ILD must become more sensitive to the daily attacks on Negroes and to the ever-increasing terror against all workers in the South.

NEXT STEPS

The fight for free speech must be sharpened in preparation for the local struggles for relief and for the March to Washington in December, with a column coming thru the south from New Orleans. In its recent struggles the Birmingham Party organization has gone through the first process of Bolshevization. No police or fascist terror can smash the solid ranks of the Party in Birmingham. But bigger and fiercer battles are at hand. It will be necessary to take the streets and break down the jim-crow policy enforced by the police at the conference and the election rally. It is necessary to build a more determined party of Negro and white workers firmly leading the down-trodden and poor workers and farmers of the South against hunger and for the release of the Scottsboro boys. For free speech and the right to vote and **for a large vote for Foster and Ford on November 8th!**

New Trial Ordered In Scottsboro Case

Advertiser

The Supreme Court of Alabama in an order issued yesterday based on a mandate received from the Supreme Court of the United States, set aside and vacated its decision affirming the conviction and death sentences of the seven negroes, found guilty of criminally assaulting two white girls near Scottsboro in the Spring of 1931, and remanded the cases to the Jackson Circuit Court for new trials. It is understood that these trials will probably take place some time next March. 11-16-32

Following the conviction of the negroes, whose cases later were given international notice, appeals were taken to the State Supreme Court, where the defendants were represented by counsel furnished by the International Labor Defense. Atty. Gen. Knight personally appeared for the State.

Montgomery Ala

In the course of time, during which scores of telegrams and letters on behalf of the negroes were received at the Capitol, the Alabama Supreme Court rendered a decision affirming judgment of the trial court, and set a new date for execution of the death sentences.

Counsel for the negroes then appealed to the U. S. Supreme Court, and that tribunal, a few days ago, rendered a decision reversing the State Supreme Court, holding that attorneys for the defendants were not properly assigned by the trial court.

The order of the Supreme Court of

Alabama reverses and annuls judgment of the Circuit Court of Jackson County in the cases, but specifies that the prisoners are to be held in custody until discharged by due course of law.

The negroes are now at Kilby Prison where they have been confined pending appeal, and will remain there awaiting an order of removal from Judge A. E. Hawkins of the Circuit Court of Jackson County, who presided at the original trials.

THE SCOTTSBORO CASE

(Herald-Tribune)

News

Sentinel

11-17-32

Knoxville, Tenn

The action of the Supreme Court in ordering a new trial for the seven Negroes convicted in the Scottsboro case will be generally received, we think, with satisfaction and relief. No one cares to see the death penalty carried out where any doubt remains, and it was impossible to feel that the original trial, hastily and apparently carelessly conducted in a natural atmosphere of prejudice, had really established the defendants' guilt beyond reasonable doubt In the broad view, a new trial can only strengthen confidence in our justice.

The Supreme Court decision is especially interesting because it passes for the first time on the question of how far the "due process" clause guarantees the individual adequate representation by counsel. The Alabama court failed to secure adequate representation for the defndants, and on this point alone its verdict is set aside. Here a new responsibility is laid upon criminal courts, and one which would seem to be wholly in the interests of justice. In many ways the safeguards thrown about the defendant in criminal cases seem rather to defeat than to promote justice, and one might be reluctant to see them strengthened. The reasoning does not apply here. The guilty defendant escapes through being too well rather than too poorly represented by counsel. The decision should be a strong reminder to criminal courts that their duty is to dispense justice and not simply to try cases.

Naturally, it is to be hoped that the defendants now get a scrupulously fair and careful retrial. The South will never solve its race problems, and all the other problems they bring in their train, until it can guarantee full justice to the Negro in assault cases or any others. The South cannot do that, however, until it realizes for itself the importance of doing so. One of the unhappiest features of such affairs is the way in which outside interference, especially when it seems to have a political or propagandist motive unrelated to the real merits of the case, embitters and confuses the issue, sometimes imperiling the interests of those whom it pretends to save.

Scottsboro Case Is Big Issue in Russia, Visitor There Says

Call

11-18-32

Kansas City, Mo

Robert Pierce, white, Oklahoma bricklayer who has recently returned from Russia, said upon his arrival here this week that the whole Russion population is wrought up over the Scottsboro case. He said that many farm and other projects have been named "Scottsboro" in honor of the defendants in the now world-wide famous case.

Mr. Pierce will deliver a lecture on the general conditions in the Soviet Union, Sunday, Nov. 20 at 7:30 p. m. at Brooklyn hall, 1904 Brooklyn avenue.

"The Negroes who formed part of the delegation with which I visited the Soviet Union," Mr. Pierce continued, "received great ovations wherever they appeared. This was due to the wide popularity given the Scottsboro case, and also to the attitude of the Russion Soviet state toward minor nationalities."

Scottsboro Paraders On Bail Pending Appea

Age

11-19-32

New York, N.Y.

Thirteen persons are free in bond of $500 each pending an appeal. Convicted of participating in a demonstration in Washington on Monday, November 7, prior to the Supreme Court's decision in the Scottsboro case, each of the 13 was given the alternative of paying a $100 fine or serving six months in jail.

The charge against them was that of illegal parading and in six instances of assaulting the police.

THE SCOTTSBORO DECISION

Planet

11-19-32

Richmond, Va.

The decision of the United States Supreme Court granting new trials to the seven youths sentenced to the electric chair in Alabama is welcomed throughout the entire nation with the possible exception of the State which is responsible for the outrage. Little hope can be entertained for the boys in an Alabama court, which for the most part conducts only mock trials when Negroes are concerned. The case will have to be brought to the nation's highest tribunal again.

Correspondence

The Scottsboro Decision

Nation

Dec. 7, 1932

New York, N.Y.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: We should like to point out that your editorial on the Scottsboro decision, in your issue of November 16, is misleading. You state, without qualification, that "they [the Scottsboro boys] are to have a new trial under different circumstances from those surrounding the original one, when an atmosphere of hostility and race prejudice made a fair trial impossible."

It seems certainly an objective aid to the legal lynchers to make such a statement in the face of the announcement by Judge A. E. Hawkins, who presided over the original lynch-trials, that he would set the retrials in his own court for its next term, March, 1933, and that he would feel now more than ever called upon to demand military accompaniment to the trial; in the face of the fact that the prosecutor has announced that he will fight the change of venue which the International Labor Defense has announced that it will seek; in the face of the fact that the trial must be held in Alabama, where the white ruling class will certainly do its best to arouse mob antagonism to the Scottsboro boys in whatever county the trial is held.

Such a statement also ignores the class and national character of the case. The Scottsboro verdicts do not constitute an isolated case, but are typical of Southern and capitalist "justice." The Scottsboro case, like all cases of oppression, persecution, framing, legal and ordinary lynching in the South, is part of a deliberate campaign of national oppression of the Negro people and enforcement of slavery conditions in the South through terrorization of the Negro masses—part of the capitalist offensive against Negro and white workers, to prevent their growing unity in the class struggle.

The Scottsboro decision of the United States Supreme Court bases itself solely on a technicality. The only point sustained is that the Scottsboro boys were not permitted to obtain counsel. The contention that the court was merely an instrument of Southern lynch justice, the contention that the lynch-mob rule of Scottsboro, organized as it was by the white Southern landowning class and comprising within its organization the court itself, predetermined the lynch verdicts, was swept aside by the Supreme Court in its decision as of no material weight.

In this manner the Supreme Court decision becomes a set of instructions to the lower courts on how legally to lynch the Scottsboro boys, and other victims of class and national oppression, without violating the Constitution. By its dismissal of the contentions of the defense that a fair trial was impossible in Scottsboro and that it was illegal to exclude Negroes from the jury, it virtually tells the Scottsboro court, to which it returns the cases, that it can get away with murder so long as it observes the technical forms of court procedure.

The International Labor Defense not only intends to fight these cases, point by point and step by step, back to the United States Supreme Court if necessary; it also proposes to intensify the mass pressure against the lynch verdicts throughout the world. Without this intensification of mass pressure, which has forced the new trial, the case cannot be won.

You will understand, then, that such a misleading statement as that contained in your editorial becomes extremely harmful to the defense of the Scottsboro boys.

New York, November 15 — Louis Colman,
Director, Publicity Department,
International Labor Defense

Lynchings - 1932
6
Legal Punishment for Rape

3706 Alabama 3706

N. A. A. C. P. FORCED OUT OF SCOTTSBORO DEFENSE CASE

Tribune
1-8-31
Washington D.C.

International Labor Defense Assumes Full Control; Darrow and Hayes Quit

NEW YORK.—(ANP)—In a hectic legal skirmish last Monday which followed sundry reconnoitring throughout the last eight months, attorneys for the International Labor Defense routed for the time being the legal representatives of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and advanced to a point where it seems probable that they will be the ones to plead the cause of the eight Scottsboro victims before the Supreme Court of Alabama, January 21.

The N.A.A.C.P. attorneys were Clarence Darrow, of Chicago and Arthur Garfield Hays, of New York, general counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union.

The chief attorney for the I.L.D. is George W. Chamlee, sr., former attorney general of the state [illegible] Tennessee state legislature, Irving Schwab, Joseph Brodsky, Carol King and Allen Taub.

These two groups of lawyers engaged in a wordy battle at Birmingham as to what each group should represent in defense of the boys. Both groups asserted that [illegible] lives of the boys. From that point on they differed.

According to Walter White, secretary of the N.A.A.C.P., four of the boys had told him that they wanted his organization to defend them, and four others had said that they favored the N.A.A.C.P., subject to the advice of their kin. But when the lawyers met in Birmingham the representatives of the I.L.D. were able to prove to the satisfaction of the law that all of the boys had agreed to retain them as counsel.

After the position of the I.L.D. attorneys in relation to the defense had been disclosed to Attorneys Darrow and Hays, Gen. Chamlee is reported to have told the N.A.A.C.P. attorneys that he was still willing to do business with them, to permit them to help in the defense, but as individual lawyers, not as representatives of the National Association. Darrow and Hays claim that they were willing to work as individuals, but were opposed to repudiating the N.A.A.C.P., which had brought them into the case, and transferring their allegiance to the Communist organization.

Washington Tribune

The American Civil Liberties Union reports: "Both Mr. Darrow and Mr. Hays refused to repudiate the N.A.A.C.P.*********, and withdrew because they did not wish to become involved in the controversy between the two organizations as to which should handle the appeal. They suggested to the lawyers already in the case that all of them issue a statement saying that they represented no organization but only the defendants.*****."

"Apparently this suggestion was favored by George W. Chamlee, ..., but that organization so far has refused to sanction Mr. Darrow's and Mr. Hay's participation in the appeal on that basis."

Thus it would seem that Darrow and Hays were willing to say that they were not representing the N.A.A.C.P. if Chamlee and the others would state that they were not representing the I.L.D. But the powers of the I.L.D. insisted not only that Chamlee and his associates stick to the banner of the Communists, but that Darrow and Hays, after throwing the N.A.A.C.P. overboard, should pin on the communist badge also. This Darrow and Hays refused to do.

Shortly after it became known that both Darrow and Hays had given their efforts in behalf of the boys for the time being, Mr. Dar~~row was severely criticized in a~~ public statement issued by Charles Yale Harrison, author of a recent biography of Mr. Darrow.

"It is unthinkable that a man of Mr. Darrow's stature," asserts Mr. Harrison, "should have stepped out of the defense, not because he doubted the innocence of the condumned youths, but because political pressure was brought to bear on him."

In his letter, Mr. Harrison continues: "My astonishment is heightened by the fact that your refusal to defend the boys is based not on the fact that you have suddenly discovered them guility, but because of a question of group precedence. In a lesser lawyer this might be comprehensible but in you it is unforgiveable.

"All your life you have shown a readiness to acknowledge yourself in the wrong when circumstances warranted. I hope you will do so again and go back to Birmingham and help defend the lads. This would be proper and right. It would be consistent and in keeping with your career.*******

"I know you are 75 years old and I know you are weary with the 50 years you have spent in the law courts of America, but your duty is in Birmingham, Alabama—to refuse to defend the Scottsboro eight will be the negation of your career of radicalism and humanitarianism."

An N.A.A.C.P. statement issued after Hays and Darrow had withdrawn from participation in the case, signed by Mr. White, contained no suggestion that that organization might seek anew to cooperate in the defense of the boys. The tenor of the statement was to accept as final and decisive the selection of the I.L.D. attorneys as their counsel by the condemned boys. Mr. White accused the boys of vacillating, but expressed the hope that "the lives of these innocent boys may be saved."

Clever Effort To Save 8 Negroes Foiled By Arrest

Advertiser
1-7-32
Montgomery, Ala.

Pugilist Confesses Getting Girl Drunk Enough To Sign Repudiation Letter

Prize Fighter Paid

Man Charges Scottsboro Defense Lawyer Hired Him To Get Statement

HUNTSVILLE, ALA., Jan. 6.—(AP)—Police announced today that a man arrested on charge of assault had signed a statement that he had been hired to get Ruby Bates, one of the principal witnesses against eight negroes sentenced to death at Scottsboro for attack, to sign a letter stating that her testimony in the trial was false.

Desk Sergt. D. G. Efflinger said Miron Pearlman, alias Danny Dundee, Chattanooga pugilist, had voluntarily signed a statement today charging that George Chamlee, Chattanooga attorney for the negroes, had hired him to get the girl drunk and then get her to sign a letter saying her testimony was false.

Efflinger said Pearlman was taken into custody last night on charge of assault for creating a disturbance at a public dance. On searching him a letter signed by the girl was found on his person purporting that she had testified falsely against the eight negroes last April and that she had not been attacked.

The girl today said she knew nothing of signing such a letter and that its contents were falsehoods. She told police that if she signed such a letter it was while she was "so drunk" she didn't know what she was doing, and then reiterated that her testimony at Scottsboro was true.

Pearlman, Efflinger said, volunteered his story and signed it before a notary public. In this statement he said that Chamlee had called him to his office in Chattanooga Dec. 31 and hired him to come here to get the girl drunk and to sign a letter saying her testimony was false and given under duress, so that the negroes could get a new trial.

The signed statement said Chamlee bought Pearlman a round trip ticket from Chattanooga here and gave him $10. Pearlman said he came here Monday and that last night he got the girl drunk and induced her to sign a letter setting forth that her testimony in the trial was false. Pearlman's statement also said that the girl was "so drunk" when she signed the letter that she didn't know what she was doing.

The negroes were convicted at Scottsboro in April, 1930, and sentenced to death. An appeal for a new trial now pending before the Alabama Supreme Court is to be argued Jan. 21.

The negroes were arrested aboard a freight train at Paint Rock, Ala., March 25, after six white youths they had thrown from the train notified the station agent at Stevenson, Ala. The girls charged that the negroes had attacked them as they were "bumming" their way from Chattanooga to Huntsville aboard the train.

Chattanooga Attorney Issues Blanket Denial

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., Jan. 6.—(AP)—George W. Chamlee, attorney for the eight negroes convicted at Scottsboro recently for attacking two white girls, issued a statement tonight making a general denial of charges by Miron Pearlman, alias Danny Dundee, prize fighter, that the attorney had employed him to get a statement from Ruby Bates, one of the girls involved, repudiating her testimony on the stand.

Pearlman was arrested at Huntsville today and the letter purporting to have been signed by the girl found in his possession.

CRITICISE N. A. A. C. P. POSITION AT SCOTTSBORO

Informer
1-9-32
Houston, Texas

New York City.—(CNS)—The celebrated Scottsboro case, in which eight Negro boys were convicted and now wait in Kilby prison facing a sentence of death, has become a battle between press bureaus of the International Labor Defense and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, while the victims of the affair are being "killed with kindness." The refusal of Clarence Darrow, noted criminal lawyer, to participate in the defense of the condemned youths as long as the International Labor Defense was connected with the case, and the similar refusal of Geo. W. Chamlee, senior counsel for the I. L. D. to compromise with the N. A. A. C. P. lawyers has excited harsh criticism on all sides.

Darrow Attacked by Biographer

In a letter sent out on the authority of Melvin P. Levy of New York City, Charles Yale Harrison, who recently completed a biography of Darrow, turned on his subject and launched a bitter criticism of Darrow's refusal to enter the case.

"I was astonished," Mr. Harrison wrote, "to learn of your refusal to participate in the defense of the Scottsboro youths unjustly facing death in Alabama. Enlightened opinion throughout the world has appealed on behalf of these unfortunate lads. You, with your half-century record of defending minority causes, should not, I think, at this late date refuse to assist in the saving of the condemned boys. All your life you have been impartial—you have defended labor leaders, socialists, anarchists and liberals and it seems odd that your impartiality should cease when it comes to working with a militant group of workers whose sole interest in this case is to save eight innocent lives."

N. A. A. C. P. Release Misleading

While the releases of the I. L. D. sent out from headquarters here are busy attacking the N. A. A. C. P., those from the national association headquarters are equally busy defending the action of Darrow and other N. A. A. C. P. lawyers. The release of the N. A. A. C. P. for Dec. 31, 1931, is contradictory. The lead article of the news release contains a summary of the N. A. A. C. P. report for the year. Under the heading "Legal Defense," the release reads, "The Scottsboro cases are the most dramatic and widely known legal struggle on which the N. A. A. C. P. has embarked during the year. Argument on them before the Alabama Supreme Court will be heard early in the coming year."

In the same release, however, is a story indirectly indicating that the national association is no longer connected with the case in any official capacity. In issuing the statement of withdrawal the N. A. A. C. P. said in part: "The N. A. A. C. P. had retained a corps of lawyers, which included the best criminal lawyers in Alabama and the leading criminal lawyer in the United States. Every defendant has, of course, the inalienable right to choose his own attorneys. The N. A. A. C. P. can only regret that the 8 defendants have not chosen to avail themselves of the array of talent obtained. It is our fear that the connection of the Communists with this case in the prevailing attitude towards Communists in Alabama will hurt the case of the boys, but we are not without hope in view of the excellent effect on public sentiment in Alabama of the work done by the N. A. A. C. P. attorneys.

"The N. A. A. C. P. had and has no interest in the case other than to extend help to the boys. The boys have vacillated in their choice of counsel. When they were last seen in Kilby prison by Walter White, secretary of the N. A, A. C. P., four of them asked to be defended by the N. A. A. C. P., while the other four expressed their personal desire, subject to the consent of their parents and guardians, that the N.A.A.C.P. obtain counsel to defend them. Relying on these statements of the boys, the N. A. A. C. P. obtained the counsel retained above. The N. A. A. C. P. still hopes that the lives of these innocent boys may be saved."

White Daily Criticizes

Critical of both Communist organization and the national association, the Philadelphia Record commented editorially as follows on the whole controversy:

"To the eight young Negroes convicted at Scottsboro, Alabama, of attacking two white girls it must seem that having two many friends is as bad as havng none. Especially when their friends can't cooperate with each other.

"International Labor Defense said it would not permit Darrow and Hays to appear as attorneys for the N. A. A. C. P., but would accept their independent services.

"Darrow, declaring he would take no part in the case so long as a Communist organization had a hand in it, said: 'We entered the case on humanitarian principles, and not to further any political cause.'

"Thus does prejudice pile on prejudice until a mountain grows. The Communists are prejudiced against the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Darrow is prejudiced against the Communists. The South is prejudiced against the Negro, the Communists and Darrow.

"What chance is there for justice in such an environment?"

RED ARTICLE IN HARPER'S GETS PRAISE

Kansas City Call

1-1-32

Southerner Writes to Walter White, Declaring Review "Is Fairest Yet"

Kansas City

NEW YORK.—Harper's magazine for January just published prints a letter from a former Alabamian, Lurton Blassingame, now living in New York, commending the article by Walter White on "Communists and the Negro" published in the December Harper's.

"It is by far the fairest statement of the Scottsboro case that has been published," says the letter of the article, and says further that "the criticism of the Alabama courts sponsored by the Communists has done more serious damage to the Negro's possibility of securing justice than any event of the past twenty years..

"During the past forty years Southern liberals have fought ignorant Southern whites in an effort to secure honest legal trials for the Negro. When success seemed at hand they found the advocates of lynch law given new weapons and new allies in the attack on courtroom justice. No wonder they are baffled. Unless the court remains the symbol of authority, all they have fought for is lost."

SCOTTSBORO "PLOT" BARED BY FIGHTER

Constitution

HUNTSVILLE, Ala., Jan. 7.—(AP) Police announced Wednesday that a man arrested on charge of assault had signed a statement that he had been hired to get Ruby Bates, one of the principal witnesses against eight negroes sentenced to death at Scottsboro for attack, to sign a letter stating her testimony in the trial was false.

1-8-32

Desk Sergeant D. G. Efflinger said Miron Pearlman, alias Danny Dundee, Chattanooga pugilist, had voluntarily signed the statement.

Atlanta Ga.

Pearlman said he came here M… day and last night got the girl … and induced her to sign a … claring her testimony w… also said the girl wa… when she signed the letter that she didn't know what she waas doing. The girl denied signing the letter and reiterated her testimony was true.

KNIGHT FOR CHAIR FOR THREE NEGROES

Says Insanity Plea Showed Work Second Time For Same Offender

Advertiser

Declaring it was not, nor would it be the policy of the law to excuse the commission of offenses on account of their enormity on the assumption that the offender was insane, Atty. Gen. Thomas E. Knight, Jr., in a communication to Gov. Miller, yesterday, declining to recommend clemency in the case of Charley Williams, Mobile negro, under sentence of death for criminally assaulting a 6-year-old white girl, pointed out that the jury and the courts had decided that Williams was legally sane at the time the crime was committed.

1-8-32

Attention was further directed by the Attorney General to the fact that the Supreme Court of Alabama had decided the facts justified the verdict of the jury and the sentence of the court. The record shows that Williams, at the time of the commission of the offense for which he is now facing the electric chair, had been out of the insane asylum only a few weeks, and that he had been sent to the asylum after attempting to murder his wife.

Montgomery

As to this, Atty. Gen. Knight declared: "The horrible result of the escape of this condemned from the penalty of the law for an offense committed prior to this forces me to consider this case with extreme care." It is then that he states: "It is not, nor should it be, the policy of the law to excuse the commission of offenses on account of the enormity thereof on the assumption that the offender was insane." No evidence has been presented to the Pardon Board, it is cited, showing or even tending to show that the mental condition of Williams is at present changed from what it was at the time the crime was committed.

Concluding his communication to the Chief executive, the Attorney General who is chairman of the State Board of Pardons, states: "His legal responsibility for the crime having been established to the satisfaction of those charged with the duty of ascertaining the same, it is not for me to nullify or recommend a nullification of the penalty prescribed by law for such offenses. I decline to recommend a commutation of the sentence of the law."

Atty. Gen. Knight also declined to recommend commutation of sentence in the cases of Richard Ashe, Hale County negro, and Charlie Williams, another negro from Mobile County, who are condemned to death for murder. Friday, Jan. 15, is the date set for execution at Kilby Prison, of all three negroes. Last Tuesday afternoon, each condemned man was given a hearing before Gov. Miller and the pardon board. All members of the Board were present except Secretary of State Pete B. Jarman, Jr., who was called to Livingston by illness in his family. State Auditor John Brandon, also a member of the Pardon body, has not yet written his recommendation in the cases.

NEW YORK TIMES

JAN 5 1932

QUITS NEGROES' DEFENSE.

Advancement Group Drops Appeal From Death Sentences.

The board of directors of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People decided at its annual meeting at 69 Fifth Avenue yesterday to withdraw their legal defense of eight Alabama Negroes whose appeals from death sentences will be heard before the Alabama Supreme Court on Jan. 21.

The board's decision, embodied in a resolution, was an aftermath of the recent action of Clarence Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hays, who had been retained by the association to defend the eight prisoners but who relinquished the case rather than join with counsel retained by the International Labor Defense. The eight were convicted of attacks on two white girls.

The resolution said that "if the International Labor Defense had as its only interest in the case the saving of the lives of these youths, it would have welcomed the entrance of Clarence Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hays no matter who employed them."

The following new directors were elected: Dr. Vernon F. Bunce of Orange, N. J., president of several branches of the organization in New Jersey, and William Allen White of Emporia, Kan.

NOT A COMMUNIST, SAYS NEGROES' AIDE

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.—(AP)—Explaining that he was a "straight-ticket southern democrat, a gentleman and in no sense of the word a communist or radical of any sort," General George W. Chamlee, of Chattanooga, addressed a "Scottsboro mass protest meeting" here today.

Constitution

1-11-32

General Chamlee is chief of a staff of five attorneys retained by the International Labor Defense to argue the appeal of eight negro boys condemned to die in Scottsboro, Ala., for alleged assault [illegible] girls.

Atlanta Ga

"The International Labor Defense," he explained, "is not a communist organization. It is made up of republicans, Baptists, democrats, socialists and a good many persons who profess neither party nor religious faith. A lot of my friends down south are continually getting the impression that the I. L. D. is a communist body, and that radicals are promoting these boys' appeal. That is not true."

Attorney Will Speak In Defense Of 8 Negroes

Advertiser

1-10-32

Montgomery Ala.

NEW YORK, Jan. 9.—(AP)—George W. Chamlee, Chattanooga attorney, will be the principal speaker at a Scottsboro protest meeting tomorrow, it was announced today. Chamlee is one of five lawyers retained by the International Labor Defense to argue the appeal of eight negroes under sentence of death from Scottsboro, Ala.

Darrow Explains Why He Quit Alabama Case

Advertiser

1-6-32

CHICAGO, Jan. 5.—(AP)—Clarence Darrow, the attorney, quit his efforts to aid eight negro youths condemned to die at Scottsboro, Ala., because, he said, "If we were going to save those boys we had to save them in Alabama, not in Russia or New York."

Montgomery Ala.

He objected, he said, to the tactics of the Communists who have aroused prejudice against the defendants.

"Threatening letters, I was informed, had been sent to Alabama officials in connection with the case. Communists had held mass meetings and prejudice had been aroused," he said.

"That isn't the way to try a law case. I have no objection to any man's politics, but you can't mix politics with law."

While Darrow explained that he would have worked willingly with one of the International Labor Defense's attorneys, he would not consider working under the designation of the Communist organization.

NEW YORK TIMES

JAN 8 1932

DARROW'S STAND EXPLAINED

He and Hays Would Defend Negroes as Individuals, Baldwin Says.

Clarence Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hays withdrew last Tuesday from the defense of eight Negroes under death sentence in Alabama for alleged attacks on two white girls, not because they objected to the connection with the case of the International Labor Defense, but because that group had demanded that they "repudiate" the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the American Civil Liberties Union announced yesterday. Roger N. Baldwin, director of the union, said the noted attorneys still were willing to appear on Jan. 21 before the Alabama Supreme Court to ask for new trials for the Negroes if they could act as attorneys for the defendants and not for any organization.

At the time Mr. Darrow and Mr. Hays were quoted in Birmingham as having said they would not enter the case with any Communist organization. Mr. Baldwin said the press reports of their stand had been based on a "misconception" and that they had withdrawn because they did not wish to be involved in the controversy between the association and the defense group.

Alabama

3707

Lynchings - 1932

Legal Punishment for Rape

BOYS MAKE FINAL CHOICE ON EVE OF TRIAL AS I. L. D. TAKES RESPONSIBILITY

Courier 1-9-32 Pittsburgh, Pa.

Communist Group Wins Out As Alabama Case Takes New Turn—General Impression Is That Youths Are Being Sacrificed On Altar Of Publicity.

(Special to The Courier by Staff Correspondent)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7—After months of wrangling, the now famous Scottsboro case comes to its closing stages, with the fate of the boys practically sealed. It appears now from reports that the I. L. D. has taken full charge of the defense and, in so doing, has assumed whatever responsibility there is connected with the trial of the case, as well as whatever the final results may be. The boys and their parents, according to reports, have notified the N. A. A. C. P. attorneys to take hands off and allow the I. L. D. to have the boys to themselves, live or die. What has happened in this famous case bears out all that was predicted when the I. L. D. got into it months ago. It has been predicted all along that the Communists have been trying to "fly their flag" by taking charge of the case, and nothing more.

The conduct of the I. L. D. has led thousands to believe that "publicity" is all the Communists ever expect to get out of their efforts. It is a well known fact that no lawyer can represent a client unless that client consents. It is also well known that a court will not prevent a client from having as many lawyers as he can hire or engage, but once the client engages his lawyers, all other lawyers are automatically put out of the case.

It appears that the I. L. D. acted on the assumption that if they could get the boys to accept their lawyers, that in itself would put the lawyers of the N. A. A. C. P. out of the case. This appears to have been done in the last few days. The boys wired Clarence Darrow that they had decided not to have his services. That ended the matter so far as the N. A. A. C. P. was concerned. The boys have chosen their lawyers, and no others can get into the case. The [illegible] now is—will they get a new

Courier

[illegible] to "get into the case" by the two organizations has not helped the boys one iota. The lawyer who fights to get a case very seldom wins that case. This, it is pointed out, is almost traditional with the profession.

1-9-32

It must be said for Mr. Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hays that they offered to defend the boys in company with the I. L. D. attorneys, if it could be agreed that all the lawyers work for the boys without representing either the I. L. D. or the N. A. A. C. P. It is reported that the lawyers had a conference on this very point, and talked almost all night trying to agree to put both organizations out of the case, and the lawyers all acting jointly, to go into the case just as attorneys for the BOYS and no one else.

Darrow agreed to this, and so did Hays. It is said the I. L. D. lawyers wanted to do this very thing, but the I. L. D. officers refused to do it. The I. L. D. wanted Darrow to assist, but told their lawyers that Darrow must carry the colors of the I. L. D. or get out of the case. Darrow refused to carry the colors of the I. L. D. and got out of the case. There was nothing left for him to do. Added to this was the telegram from the boys to Darrow, telling him they had selected other lawyers. This ended Darrow's participation in the case, and took the N. A. A. C. P. out of the case. Thus ends the wrangling over who shall defend the boys.

But what of the boys? How stands their case before the courts? What will happen to them? Who is interested in their freedom, their guilt or their innocence?

If the I. L. D. wants to defend these boys as badly as they have led the public to believe, they have their chance. If the boys are acquitted the I. L. D. will get the credit. If the boys lose the I. L. D. will have no alibi whatever, but will stand guilty of trafficking in human life for the sake of publicity.

The public preferred the N. A. A. C. P. and their lawyers, but the boys prefer the I. L. D. and their lawyers, and the boys are the ones to live or die after the trial. The N. A. A. C. P. has done all that could have been done. They ought to stand aside until the case is tried. If the boys lose they will be screaming for Darrow and the N. A. A. C. P. to save them from the chair. This is the opinion of the people who have watched the whole case from beginning to its present stage.

QUITS FIGHT

Attorney CLARENCE DARROW

Famous defender of human rights who refused to help defend the eight convicted Scottsboro youths after it was learned that the boys had selected the I. L. D. Darrow, along with Arthur Garfield Hayes, expressed a willingness to act as the boys' counsel providing they represented only the best interests of the youths and no organization.

DARROW TO PAY BACK PART OF HIS FEE

Courier Pittsburgh Pa

2-13-32

NEW YORK, Feb. 11—A complete audit by certified public accountants of all sums received and expended by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in connection with the Scottsboro cases, was made public today at the N. A. A. C. P. national office, 69 Fifth avenue.

The audit, by Messrs. W. C. Heaton & Co., of New York City, covers the period April 1, 1931 to December 31, 1931, and in their statement the auditors say:

"We have audited all receipts shown by the books to have been contributed for the purpose of defending the Scottsboro cases and (with the exception of telephone and telegraph charges, which have been test checked) all recorded expenses. A small amount only was unpaid at December 31, 1931. No charges have been made for the services of executive officers or employees of the N. A. A. C. P. nor for mimeographing, stationery, etc., in connection with the Scottsboro appeals.

"We have prepared and submit the attached statement which we believe correctly summarizes the receipts and expenses for the defense of the Scottsboro cases, to December 31 1931.

"We are informed by the secretary of the association that Mr. Darrow will refund a part of the fee paid him because of his withdrawal from the cases and that there will be additional bills for attorneys' expenses the total of which is undetermined.

TWO HOPES LEFT

Journal and Guide

4-16-32

Norfolk Va

WHEN the Alabama Supreme Court on Saturday refused to grant a rehearing in the case of the doomed Scottsboro boys, whose deaths sentences by a lower court it upheld last month, their chances for proving the innocence they have all along maintained narrowed down to two possibilities. The governor of Alabama may pardon them, a very unlikely possibility, or he may commute their sentences, but he probably will not. The second chance rests in a review by the U. S. Supreme Court.

When the International Labor Defense appeals the case to the United States Supreme Court, as it has promised it would, able lawyers will plead for the justice which their young clients deserve. Walter Pollack, white, whose report for the Wickersham Commission on "Lawless Enforcement of Law" created a sensation. is the new chief counsel for the prospective appearance before the highest American tribunal. This is encouraging.

While interest still centers in these latest developments, considerable attention is still being directed to the failure of Justice Knight of the Alabama Supreme Court to disqualify himself despite the fact that his son was the attorney general who represented the state in opposing new trials for the boys when the case was argued in January. The hyper-sensitiveness of the southern court was further illustrated last week when it threatened to hold telegraph companies in contempt if they persisted in accepting messages of protest addressed to the court. If this contemplated action is taken an interesting question of law and constitutional rights will be added to the multitude of those already raised in the year-old and ugly litigation. Its speedy and final settlement justly is the fervent hope of unbiased citizens everywhere.

Certainly enough doubt exists as to the

guilt of nine youth involved to make all fair-minded persons anxious that every resource be exhausted to establish or disprove their claims. That the highest Alabama court denied the appeal of the defendants' attorneys cannot fail to result in a weakening of faith in our courts as tribunals of justice. The boys were not given a fair and impartial trial:—their lawyers were intimidated and hamstrung and were not given sufficient time to prepare a defense, the motion for a change of venue was denied by the court of original jurisdiction, and in short the verdicts against the boys were rendered in a mob dominated atmosphere. That is not due process of law and the U. S. Supreme Court has already said so in the Arkansas cases. To those who have had access to the full facts of the case considerable doubt even exists that the alleged raping of two disreputable white girl hoboes was ever committed.

Scottsboro Accounting

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa

2-13-32

RECEIPTS		
From N. A. A. C. P. branches	$4,604.09	
From other organizations	1,744.56	
From individuals	706.16	
Total receipts		$7,054.81
EXPENSES		
For legal fees:		
To Clarence Darrow	$2,000	
To Stephen Roddy and Milo Moody	870	
To Fort, Beddow & Ray	1,000	
To A. T. Walden	40	
Total legal fees	$3,910.00	
For transcripts of testimony	716.50	
For traveling expenses of N. A. A. C. P. officials	1,604.07	
For telephone and telegraph	595.34	
For printing pamphlets, invitations, etc.	169.35	
For postage on invitations to benefits, meetings, etc.	100.30	
For advertising, magazine articles and miscellaneous expenses of the N. A. A. C. P. national office	83.07	
Total expenses		$7,178.63
Excess of expenses over receipts		123.82

WHITE BOY SAYS TESTIMONY USED TO CONVICT IS FALSE

Call 5-6-32

By C. A. FRANKLIN
(Editor of The Call)

Kansas City

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — When the now famous Scottsboro case came up for trial in the lower court, the prosecutor did not present to the jury all the evidence he h according to persons to whom this evidence was brought after the trial was over.

This is the cast in which the eight Negro boys riding a freight train in Alabama were accused and convicted of attacking two white girls who were also stealing a ride on the train. The crime was alleged to have taken place in March 1931.

The sentence of the lower court was confirmed by the state supreme court in March 1932 with the chief justice dissenting. The trial was of unusual nature, the eight boys being divided into pairs, and all eight tried and sentenced in one day. Troops surrounded the court house to keep the mob in check.

Witness Suppressed

Conviction was secured upon the positive identification of the two girls, whose word was taken by the jury as against that of the eight boys. It now appears that there was another witness.

One whom the prosecutor is said to have suppressed. This witness is one of the five white boys who were the companions of the girls. In the original version of the affair all five white boys are said to have been thrown from the train by the Negro boys. Now comes one of the boys who said he was not thrown from the train.

He makes a statement as eye-witness to the whole affair, and that statement is said to have been in the prosecutor's hands before the trial. Later [illegible] came into the hands of citizens, some of whom have such standing that their word carries weight.

Didn't Use Statement

This white boy in his statement which the prosecutor did not use, flatly denies the testimony used to get a conviction. In the first place all the white boys were not thrown from the train. He himself is evidence on that point. The girls were not forced, therefore there was no rape.

Should this case be reversed and sent back for a new trial by the U. S. supreme court, the decision will be simply reaffirming what the court has already said in the Elaine, Ark., cases. It was held in those cases that a court, however close it holds to the letter of the law, is not gi ing a fair and impartial trial when the jury in the box knows a mob is outside demanding conviction. That was true at Elaine and it was true in the Scottsboro cases.

The lawyers used by the International Labor Defense on behalf of the Scottsboro boys are not leaders at the Alabama bar, but the opinion is general here that they know enough to follow the precedent already made.

If they do, the opinion is that they will secure a reversal. In that event no further trial of the boys is expected because this added testimony will make another conviction impossible.

All Alabama does not believe the Scottsboro boys are guilty. Writing to the Birmingham News, E. W. Butler, minister at Thorsby, Ala., speaks plainly what many are thinking. He says:

White Minister Protests

"I wrote the following note especially for my friends and brethren in the Christian ministry. The first man to whom I showed it urged me to send it to you for the "Voice of the People." He seems sure you will be ready to print it. Hence:

"I want to pass on to you a burden which, for some time, has been lying on my heart.

"A few days hence some Alabama boys are doomed to die, to die as criminals. Though these boys may be guilty as charged—many think they are—yet deep in our hearts we believe that in the popular mind the fact that they are black outweighs the question of their guilt. I am sure no one of us believes that a white boy would have been condemned to die on such testimony as that which is sending these boys to the electric chair.

"It may be that some of my brother Alabama ministers have boldly and openly spoken some words of sympathy, or grief, or protest, or dissent because of this great wrong about to be done according to law. But, if so, I have neither heard nor read of it.

"I hope and pray that the time may come when some white man of influence in Alabama will care and dare to raise his voice in a plea for justice to his brother (?) who is so unfortunate as to have a black skin. Many of us are gad that the chief justice of Alabama's Supreme Court cared to do the unpopular thing in expressing his judicial opinion that conditions at Scottsboro were not such as to insure a fair trial to the condemned.

"I want the colored brethren who see this note to know that my heart goes out to them in loving sympathy. I hope I am able to understand to a small degree what must be the anguish of your soul in these days, an anguish which you do not even dare to utter except behind closed doors. If you do, some of us white folks will call on you and see that you pay the penalty for your rashness. If our acts are so public and so outrageous that the law must lay hold upon us, we can easily find the jury to let us go on the ground of our temporary insanity.

"I wonder what, deep down in your souls, you think of the white man's religion. I wonder what our Lord Himself—your Lord Christ—thinks of it. I wonder what He would say about it if He were here in Alabama today. If He shou openly proclaim what some of think He might proclaim, it woul not take long to gather a mob bloodthirsty as that one in Jerusalem 1,800 years ago.

"I suppose that what I have written may seem to some of you wh read it an indictment of the courage of my brethren in the ministry. I would disavow any such intention. I know from my own experience that a man may often refrain from saying what he feels ought to be said, because he fears that if he should say it here and now it would do more harm than good. Paul warns us of 'a zeal not according to knowledge.' I hope that this note is not too striking a manifestation of such zeal.'"

Scottsboro Appeal Not In Washington

Advertiser

5-7-32

WASHINGTON, May 6.—(AP)—Unless their petition for review is presented to the Supreme Court not later than May 23, the six negroes condemned to death at Scottsboro, Ala., for assault may suffer an experience similar to that of Sacco-Vanzetti, who were executed during a Summer recess of the highest court and before it could consider their case.

Recently the Alabama Supreme Court, after it had refused to set aside the death penalty, postponed the execution of the men from May 13 to June 24 to enable them to apply to the highest court for a review. Under an order recently issued the United States Supreme Court will receive no motions during its present term after May 23 and will end the term on May 31.

Montgomery, Ala.

Keeping a close check on developments, Atty. Gen. Knight of Alabama, called at the office of the clerk of the Supreme Court today and was informed counsel for the negroes had not filed their petition for review. A copy of the proceedings in the Alabama courts has been lodged with the clerk. Should the petition for review be received too late for presentation to the court at the present term, its filing would not act as a stay. According to Atty. Gen. Knight the Alabama courts would be powerless to delay the execution further to enable the Supreme Court on reassembling in October to consider the matter.

In the Sacco-Vanzetti case, the two condemned Italians filed a petition for review in August, 1927, while the Supreme Court was in Summer recess.

An unsuccessful effort was made by counsel for them to persuade justices of the court to grant a stay of execution until the court met in October and had an opportunity to pass on the petition. When the court did begin its new term in October, it dismissed the petition because the men had been executed.

Lynchings-1932

Alabama.

3708

Legal Punishment for Rape.

POLLACK, ABLE N. Y. LAWYER, JOINS IN SCOTTSBORO CASE

Chicago Defender

4/9/32

NEW YORK, April 8.—Walter Pollack, well-known New York lawyer, has been retained by the International Labor Defense as chief counsel for the Scottsboro boys. He will argue before the supreme court of the United States the cases of the seven boys whose death sentences have been upheld by the decision of the Alabama supreme court.

An associate of Justice Benjamin N. Cardozo of the United State supreme court, Pollack has had considerable experience in arguing cases before the highest bench. He was counsel for the defense in the case of Anita Whitney, charged in California with criminal syndicalism, and he was retained as special U. S. prosecuting attorney in the case of Nicky Arnstein. Pollack was in charge of the Wickersham commission, which recently conducted an investigation into police methods.

Other legal steps now being taken by the Labor Defense in this case are the efforts to secure the freedom on bail of Roy Wright, whose case in Scottsboro resulted in a mistrial, and of Eugene Williams, whose death sentence was reversed by the Alabama supreme court.

Execution Stay For Scottsboro Blacks Assured

Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala

4-19-32

Attorney General States Prosecution Won't Fight Death Delay For Appeal

Plea To U.S. Court

Because Of His Dissenting Opinion, Chief Justice Wants Associates' View

By JOSEPH R. M'COY

Granting by the Alabama Supreme Court today on formal application by defense counsel of a stay of execution pending appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States, in the cases of the seven condemned negroes who were convicted at Scottsboro a little over a year ago of criminally assaulting two young white girls, was regarded last night as a foregone conclusion inasmuch as the move will not be opposed by Atty. Gen. Knight.

The Attorney General has stated he will do nothing to hamper reviewal of these cases by any court in the land, but will champion before any of them the decisions of the courts of this State.

The application is to be presented some time this morning before the high court convenes in regular session at the Capitol, by G. W. Chamlee, of Chattanooga, Tenn., and Irving Schwob, of New York, attorneys for the negroes, and employed by the International Labor Defense.

With such an order issued, Mr. Chamlee, Mr. Schwob and associate counsel will then proceed to seek a review of the Scottsboro cases via certiorari by the U. S. Supreme Court, grounds for reviewal being substantially the same as those forming the basis of application for rehearing in the cases which the Alabama Supreme Court recently denied, declining to interfere with or alter in any way that tribunal's original judgment of affirmance.

Knight's Statement

That the State will not oppose petition for stay of execution of the death sentences was made clear in a statement issued yesterday by Atty. Gen. Knight. His statement follows:

"In the matter of the motion of the defense counsel in the Scottsboro cases for a stay of execution, I have nothing to say one way or the other. This is a matter that peculiarly addresses itself to the discretion of the Court which rendered the judgment of affirmance.

"I am perfectly satisfied that the trial court committed no error and that the defendants had a fair and impartial trial and that the judgment of the Supreme Court in affirming the cases was correct in every particular.

"I have no desire to oppose a review of the judgment of the trial court and Supreme Court of this State by the Supreme Court of the United States. However, I shall contend as vigorously as I can before the Supreme Court of the United States that the judgments of our courts were correct, that the defendants were deprived of no rights under the Constitution of this State or of the United States."

Friday the Thirteenth

In affirming judgment of the trial court in seven of the eight cases appealed, the Supreme Court of Alabama set Friday, May 13, as the date of execution of the death sentences. All justices concurred except Chief Justice John C. Anderson, who dissented. He concurred, however, in the decision in which the case of the eighth Scottsboro defendant, Eugene Williams, was reversed and remanded on account of the question being raised whether or not Williams was over 16 years of age.

Mr. Chamlee and Mr. Schwob arrived here yesterday to file their petition for a stay pending appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court. Shortly after the noon hour they presented the matter to Chief Justice Anderson at his home where he was confined by a slight indisposition. Ordinarily the Chief Justice would have, himself, considered the application and issued an order, but in this particular instance, having written the dissenting opinion in the cases concerned, he stated he preferred to consult with his colleagues, the associate justices of the Supreme Court, before action was taken.

Mr. Chamlee expressed himself as of the opinion that he thought it best for the order to be signed by all justices and had rather that be done. It was decided, therefore, that the whole Court will take the application up and dispose of it the first thing this morning.

Cuban Writers Protest Scottsboro Executions In Cable To Gov. Miller

Advertiser

Montgomery

Ala

HAVANA, CUBA, April 17—(AP)—Thirty-six Cuban writers and journalists today cabled Gov. Miller, of Alabama, protesting the impending execution on May 13 of seven negroes charged with having attacked two white girls.

4-18-32

The text of the cable:

The undersigned Cuban writers and journalists hereby present to you our most vehement protest for miscarriage of justice concerning Scottsboro negro boys victims racial social prejudice. Their massacre would constitute a shameful breach of legal procedure and equity an outrage to humanity and civilization and a lasting blot upon the public records of Alabama."

Among the writers and newspapermen who signed the cable were: Ofelia Rodriguez Acosta, Manuel Marsal, Francisco Ichaso, Ramon Vasconce Ryrlos, Rafael Suarez Solis, Ricardo Villares, Fernando Rivero and Raul Ortega.

Negroes' Execution Protested by Cubans

Constitution

Atlanta, Ga.

4-18-32

HAVANA, Cuba., April 17.—(AP) Thirty-six Cuban writers and journalists today cabled Governor Miller, of Alabama, protesting the impending execution on May 13 of seven negroes charged with having attacked two white girls.

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ALA. CASE TO 'LAST COURT'

Courier

4-16-32

Pittsburgh Pa.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Apr. 14.—(ANP)—An open door to the United States Supreme Court was left by the Alabama Supreme Court Saturday, when it denied the motion for a rehearing, made on behalf of the seven boys convicted of rape and condemned to death at Scottsboro last April. The application for a rehearing was made through attorneys of the International Labor Defense in March after the state Supreme Court had denied the motion for a new trial and set May 13th as the date of execution.

It is understood now that the I. L. D. will speedily place the case before the United States Supreme Court, their battery of lawyers being led by Irving Pollack, a former associate of Associate Justice Cardozo.

The International Labor Defense is also preparing to defend Eugene Williams and Roy Wright, two victims of the Scottsboro case. At the first trial there was a mistrial in Wright's case, and the state Supreme Court ordered another trial for Williams.

I. L. D. leaders state that Alabama official action against Communist protests are having a strong effect.

SCOTTSBORO NEGROES TO TAKE CASE HIGHER

MONTGOMERY, Ala., April 18.—(AP)—An "unprecedented situation" tonight acted as a temporary barrier to the request for a stay of execution for the seven negroes under death sentence for an attack on two white girls near Paint Rock, pending an appeal to the United States supreme court.

Chief Justice John C. Anderson, before whom the petition was filed, delayed action until tomorrow with the statement that he was in a "delicate situation" as he was the only dissenting member of the court that affirmed the sentences.

4-19-32

George W. Chamlee, chief counsel for the negroes, was assured by Chief Justice Anderson that the request would be granted after he had consulted other members of the court.

"Ordinarily, I would grant the stay myself," the chief justice said, adding that the "situation is unprecedented" because he alone dissented in the opinion affirming the Jackson county circuit court where the negroes were sentenced April 11, 1931.

Atlanta Ga.

Chamlee said the appeal to the United States supreme court would be based on the grounds that the negroes were being deprived of "life and liberty without due process of law," that the request for a change of venue should have been granted, and that mob spirit and hysteria dominated the judge and jury at the trial.

Thomas E. Knight Jr., attorney-general, said he had "nothing to say" in regard to the petition for a stay of execution.

Nation
4-27-32
New York
Vol 134
P. 465

FROM ALABAMA comes the news that the State Supreme Court overruled an application for rehearing the appeals of the seven Negro boys convicted of rape and sentenced to electrocution on May 13. This, of course, is a not unexpected step in the progress of the case. The next step, which is being made at once, is the application for a stay of execution followed by an appeal for a writ of certiorari which will take the case to the Supreme Court of the United States. It is encouraging to know that in the appeal to the court of last resort Walter H. Pollak of New York, one of the most able and distinguished members of the bar, will associate himself with the case. Meanwhile the boys, all of them under twenty-one years of age, have been for a year in the death house at Montgomery. The Alabama courts have denied them the opportunity for a new trial, although there is ample evidence that public sentiment at their original trial was such as to influence the jury. Alabama, in short, no longer troubles itself with the unpleasant features provided by an old-time lynching; but the result for seven young Negroes accused of rape on the unsupported testimony of a white woman of highly questionable reputation will, unless the federal Supreme Court intervenes, be substantially the same.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.
JOURNAL & TIMES
APR 9 1932

ATTORNEYS LOSE APPEAL AT CAPITAL

Supreme Court Hands Down Reversal of Plea for Rehearing for Septet Convicted of Crime Against Girls

EXECUTION DATE FIXED

Mandate of Lower Court Sending Group of Youthful Negroes to Death for Attack on Pair Is Upheld

The Alabama supreme court Saturday overruled an application for rehearing of the appeals of seven young negroes sentenced to die May 13 for attacks on two white girls near Paint Rock, Ala., March 25, 1931.

The applications for rehearing were filed March 25, the day after the supreme court in a 6 to 1 decision had affirmed the death sentences imposed on seven of the negroes and reversed the sentence of an eighth.

The applications for a rehearing and reviews of the evidence were filed by George Chamlee, Chattanooga, Tenn., attorney, who announced then that if denied, an effort would be made to take the case before the United States supreme court.

Unless attorneys are successful in getting the case before the United States supreme court, only Gov. B. M. Miller can save them from the electric chair.

May 13 for Execution

The action of the supreme court resets Friday, May 13, as the date of execution of the sentences. Filing the application for rehearing had acted to cause the court to withhold execution of death warrants, pending disposition of the plea.

The negroes under death sentence are, Ozie Powell, 17, and Charlie Weems, 21, of Atlanta; Andy Wright, 17, and Heywood Patterson, 17, of Chattanooga; Olen Montgomery, 17, Monroe, Ga.; Willie Robertson, 17, and Clarence Norris, 18, Columbus, Georgia.

During the trials early last April, the International Labor Defense of New York telegraphed Judge A. J. Hawkins, presiding, and Governor Miller demanding that the "legal lynching" be stopped and a change of venue be granted.

Since the sentences were passed, Governor Miller and the Alabama supreme court have received numerous petitions in their behalf and in several instances the pleas for the negroes contained threats of violence if they were not immediately released.

Governor Miller, since the supreme court acted, March 24, has received several hundred communications in behalf of the negroes, the majority of which are postal cards demanding "the immediate safe release of these nine innocent Scottsboro boys."

In addition to the seven under sentence, Eugene Williams, 15, of Chattanooga, whose sentence was reversed in the supreme court decision ,and Roy Wright, 14, a juvenile, were indicted for the offense which occurred aboard a freight train between Stevenson, Ala., and Paint Rock.

The two girls told authorities they were hoboing their way from Chattanooga to their homes in Huntsville in a gondola car with seven white youths. At Stevenson, they testified in the trials, the negroes boarded the car and forced all except one of the white youths to jump off and attacked them. The one white youth the girls testified was knocked unconscious in a fight.

The negroes in their trials individually denied taking part in the attacks.

BRITISH REDS PUSH MASS FIGHT FOR SCOTTSBORO 9

Daily Worker
4-19-32
New York, N.Y.

Lead Demostrations Before American Embassy

LONDON, April 13.—The British Daily Worker, official organ of the British Communist Party, is carrying on a splendid campaign to mobilize the British workers for support of the fight against the lynch verdicts and against all forms of persecution and oppression of the Negro masses. In one of its news stories on the case, the British Daily Worker quotes a New York dispatch to the London Times which clearly shows the fear of the American ruling class of the mass fight to save the boys. The article says:

"The New York correspondent of 'The (London) Times,' writing of the case of the Scottsboro boys, declares that the affair 'is already showing signs of developing political and social repercussions as serious and widespread as those of the Sacco and Vanzetti affair in Massachusetts a few years ago.'

"The Times' correspondent points out, that 'outside the South the case is very generally regarded as an example of 'legal lynching,' and even in the South there are many who admit that the evidence against the boys is as flimsy as it well could be, and only support their conviction on social and political grounds."

The British Communist paper concludes the article with the following stirring appeal:

"These admissions of the bourgeois correspondent of 'The Times' are further, if belated, indication that a brutal murder is being planned by American imperialism.

"Protests must pour in to the U. S. A. Embassy, at 4, Grosvenor Gardens, London, S. W., and every militant worker must get busy in his union and factory, explaining the case to his mates and helping to organize in mighty mass demonstrations against murderous American imperialism."

In sharp contrast to this militant call for mass defense for the boys by the British Communist daily, is the tone of a news article in the Daily Herald, official organ of the British Labor Party which deliberately gives the impression that the mass fight to save the boys has been a failure and that therefore further protests are useless. The article is captioned: "Seven Negro Boys to Hang—World Protests Ignored."

Recent demonstrations of British workers against the Scottsboro lynch verdicts proves that the British workers are refusing to be mislead by the "socialist" Daily Herald, and are continuing to build a mighty world wide defense movement for the boys.

PREPARATIONS ARE MADE FOR ROY WRIGHT,S TRAIL

Independent
Atlanta Ga
3-11-32

Chattanooga, Tenn.—George W. Chamlee, attorney for the International Labor Defense in the Scottsboro case, has been informed in a conference with the solicitor of the Scottsboro, Ala., court that Roy Wright, youngest of the nine Negro boys framed for assault on two white girl hoboes, will be tried as soon as the Alabama Supreme Court renders its verdict on the death sentences of the other eight boys.

No decision has yet been given by the supreme court justices on the appeal argued by Chamlee, Joseph Brodsky and Irving Schwab of the International Labor Defense, in Montgomery on January 21 and 22. Roy Wright was 13 years old in April 1931 when the "lenient" solicitor of the Scottsboro court asked the jury to give him life imprisonment instead of the death sentence given his 17 year old brother Andy and the other boys. The jury disagreed, with eleven for death and one for life imprisonment. A mistrial was declared.

Chamlee visited the Scottsboro boys in Kilby prison last week and Roy in Birmingham. He reports that they are well and "holding up fine." He told them that the case will be carried to the Supreme Court of the United States should an adverse decision come form the Alabama Supreme Court. Meanwhile, mass protest continues unabated throughout the country and in Europe. A "Scottsboro Parade" was planned for the near future in Chicago at a conference of 74 organizations representing thousands of Negro and white workers.

In Chicago, as is other cities with large Negro populations working-class organizations are appointing delegations to urge city councils to take a public stand on the Scottsboro case. Governing bodies in Hamtrack, Mich and in D'Ivry, France, have already protested the Scottsboro decision. In Chicago, the case is being linked up with the struggle against the police terror in the Negro section of the South Side. Especially are the workers demanding the dismissal of Policeman Stege and Barker known among Negro workers as "The Killers." Workers in Mexico City painted the walls of the American Embassy with "Free Scottsboro Boy" signs.

Lynchings-1932

Alabama.

3709

Legal Punishment for Rape.

THE "SCOTTSBORO" DECISION

The Supreme Court of Alabama affirms the judgment of the Jackson court in the cases of seven of the eight Negroes convicted of criminally assaulting two young women a year ago yesterday. The other defendant's case was reversed and remanded to the circuit court, thence to the juvenile court. The question having been raised that this defendant is less than 16 years of age, the Supreme Court holds that it can have no jurisdiction in this instance until the question of age is cleared up.

Advertiser

The judges affirmed the seven cases by a majority of six to one, Chief Justice Anderson dissenting.

3-26-32

Thus the highest judicial authority in Alabama, after a careful review of all the facts in the history of this internationally celebrated case, declares that the trial court did not err, that the defendants were fairly and lawfully convicted, and that the jury was not intimidated or in any way influenced by the state of public opinion at the time.

Montgomery, Ala.

This case has been tried on soap boxes in New York and Berlin. It has been tried in the newspapers and by agitators who swamped the high authorities of Alabama with offensive telegrams, seeking by various means to intimidate all officials, including judges of the Supreme Court. Various irresponsible outside persons, and some who are not irresponsible, have made it difficult for Alabama to look neither to the right nor the left as it went about its duty in connection with this case. But public officials have kept their heads clear and acted conscientiously in spite of these gratuitous and unwarranted attacks.

While these hapless men have been tried in the press and on the soap box, as well as in orderly, oath-bound courts, they were fairly tried only in the courts.

The six justices of the Supreme Court of Alabama acted without prejudice. They are not excitable, irresponsible men. They gave a great deal of attention to the record in this case. They put their hearts in the task before them. After long deliberation over the facts as presented to them, they decided that the defendants had been done no injustice, with the exception of the one about whose age there seems to be dispute.

It should satisfy all reasonable persons that the justices of the Supreme Court of Alabama know more about the facts in this case than anybody else. All reasonable persons will be satisfied that these judges are as conscientious as the agitators who have sought to disgrace Alabama before the world because it has gone forward with an orderly enforcement of the law against criminal assault in a particularly aggravated instance of such assault.

BACKS CONVICTION OF SEVEN NEGROES

Alabama Supreme Court Rules Eighth Scottsboro Defendant Should Have a New Trial.

N.Y. Times

EXECUTION SET FOR MAY 13

3/25/32

Chief Justice Dissents, Asserting Hearings Were Unfair—Labor Defense to Seek Appeal.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., March 24.—Holding that a fair and impartial trial, was accorded seven of eight Negroes in the Scottsboro assault upon two write girls, the State Supreme Court by 6 to 1 today affirmed the verdict of the lower court and set May 13 as the date for their execution.

N.Y. Times

The verdict of the trial court was reversed and remanded for trial in the case of Eugene Williams, whom defense counsel contended was a juvenile. The court held that while affidavits submitted to prove he was a juvenile "may be false, there is nothing in this case to prove their falsity."

3-25-32

Chief Justice Dissents.

Chief Justice John C. Anderson dissented in all cases except that of Eugene Williams.

Today's opinion, written by Justice Thomas E. Knight Sr., with Justices Bouldin, Gardner, Brown, Thomas and Foster concurring, held that the court had not erred in denying a change of venue, as alleged by the International Labor Defense; that the speed of the trial was no ground for reversal; that the new evidence claimed was not conclusively shown and that there was no error in the record.

"If there were more speed and less delay in the administration of the criminal laws of the land," he held, "life and property would be infinitely safer, and greater respect would the criminally inclined have for the law."

He further held that the speedy trial and presence of the military did not have a coercive influence on the jury, but that instead the militia "was notice to everybody that the strong arm of the State was there to assure the accused of a lawful trial."

Upholds Jury Right.

The opinion held that the "exclusion of the Negroes from the venire" did not deprive the defendants of their rights under the Fourteenth Amendment, declaring "the State of Alabama has the right, within constitutional limitations, to fix the qualifications for jurors."

Justice nKight referred to the trial of Czolgosz in Buffalo in 1901 for the assassination of President McKinley and cited that the trial took place within less than ten days after the murder; that the trial consumed exactly eight hours and twenty-six minutes; that less than two months later Czolgosz was executed, and that the entire nation approved.

"True," he wrote, "this Czolgosz verdict was rendered in a case where a human life ahd been taken in a most dastardly manner. But we are of the opinion that some things may happen to one worse than death, and if the evidence is to be believed one of these things happened to this defenseless woman, Victoria Price, on that ill-fated journey from Stevenson, Ala., to Paintrock, Ala., on March 25, 1931."

Chief Justice Anderson, in dissenting, wrote in part:

"As to whether or not these defendants are guilty is not a question of first importance, the real one being did they get a fair and impartial trial as contemplatel by the bill of rights.

Holds Trial Was Unfair.

"It may be that neither of the foregoing reasons, if standing olone, should reverse these cases, but when considered in connection with each other, they must collectively impress the judicial mind with the conclusion that they did not get a fair and impartial trial that is required and contemplated by our Constitution."

George W. Chamlee, chief counsel for the defendants, announced from Chattanooga today that he would immediately request a rehearing of the court, and that the International Labor defense woull ask an appeal from the Alabama Supreme Court to the United States Supreme Court.

The seven Negroes under death sentence are Oxie Powell, Atlanta; Andy Wright and Heywood Patterson, Chattanooga; Willie Robertson, Columbus, Ga.; Olen Montgomery and Charlie Weems, Atlanta.

They were arrested at Paintrock aboard a freight train after Victoria Price and Ruby Bates, Huntsville girls, said the Negroes had attacked them.

Negroes Get Support Here.

The International Labor Defense announced here yesterday that it had telegraphed the following protest to Governor Miller of Alabama:

"Millions of workers throughout world enraged at State Supreme Court confirmation of death verdicts against Scottsboro boys. Every scrap of evidence proves the boys innocent, victims of blatant frame-up, railroaded ruthlessly through legal lynch machinery designed to terrorize workers, especially black ones. Supreme court verdict reveals highest courts working hand in glove with owners of America against working class. We demand release of Scottsboro victims and immediate halt of lynchings, legal and otherwise, in your State. I. L. D. pledges to leave no stone unturned to free these boys."

Roger N. Baldwin, director of the American Civil Liberties Union, commented as follows:

"The Alabama Supreme Court runs true to Southern form in upholding the death verdict in the Scottsboro case. Considering the general attitude in the South toward any rape case, however disputed the facts, it was hardly to be expected that a new trial would be ordered."

REHEARING IN SCOTTSBORO CASE ASKED

4/2/32

Will Carry Case to U.S. Supreme Court if Necessary.

WHITE CO-EDS MAKE APPEAL

Girls from Colleges Go to Washington.

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—George W. Chamlee, attorney, applied for a rehearing by the State court of appeals of the case of the seven boys sentenced to be executed here May 13 for an alleged assault on two white girls riding as hoboes on a freight train some time ago.

In his applications, the boys' attorney asked the court to set aside its judgment rendered several days ago whereby the sentences of the lower court were affirmed for seven of the eight boys.

One was given a new hearing because of his age being alleged as under 16.

To Supreme Court

If the application is denied, Mr. Chamlee said, immediate steps would be taken to carry the case to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The following wire of protest was sent to Governor B. M. Miller of Alabama by the International Labor Defense:

"Millions of workers throughout world enraged at State Supreme Court confirmation of death verdicts against Scottsboro boys. Every scrap of evidence proves the boys innocent, victims of blatant frame-up, railroaded ruthlessly through legal lynch machinery designed to terrorize workers, especially black ones.

"Supreme Court verdict reveals highest courts working hand in glove with owners of America against working class. We demand release of Scottsboro victims and immediate halt of lynchings legal and otherwise in your state. I.L.D. pledges to leave no stone unturned to free these boys."

The following protest was wired by the I.L.D. to Chief Justice John Anderson of the Alabama Supreme Court:

"Your confirmation of death verdicts against innocent Scottsboro boys is blow against working class, especially poor Negroes in South. Workers throughout world protest this upholding of legal lynching and obvious frame-ups as weapon to 'keep Negro in his place,' meaning ruthless exploitation of Negro and white workers by factory and landowners. By all our resources of mass organization appeal to public and legal measures we pledge to fight this terror which your decision will aid."

N.A.A.C.P. Would Act

Announcement was made at the offices of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People that they would step in and make an appeal for the condemned boys if the latter would permit them to do so.

The basis for the appeal which the N.A.A.C.P. would make is a case in Arkansas won by the association before the Supreme Court in 1923 in which it was ruled that a mob-dominated trial was not "due process of law."

Officials of the association said they believed it "not impossible" that a similar result might be attained in the Alabama case.

White Girls Make Plea

Co-eds from four leading women's colleges of the East are leaving New York for Washington, Wednesday, to plead with U.S. Senators and Representatives for the lives of the seven boys.

The girls will be joined in Washington by co-eds from Southern colleges. All in all, the group will consist of 12 students, including a Negro girl from Barnard and possibly two from Howard University.

The group includes: from Vassar College, Eunice Clark, newly elected editor-in-chief of the college paper; Anna Caples of Norfolk, Va, and Riva Stocker of New York; from Smith College, Julia Hyman of New York; from Wellesley College, Florence C. Smith of Canada; from Barnard College, Vera Joseph.

Expected to join the college women in Washington are representatives of Swarthmore College, Pa.; Goucher College, Baltimore, and the University of North Carolina. The girls will attempt to see especially the insurgent Congressmen and the Southern Senators.

Negro Defense Going To U. S. Supreme Court

Advertiser
4-10-32
Montgomery, Ala.

Alabama's High Tribunal Refuses Rehearing In Scottsboro Attack Case

Appeal Is Decided

Chamlee To Seek Stay; Knight Says His Office Will Defend Decision

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., April 9.—(AP)—Immediate steps will be taken to carry the case of the seven negroes convicted of attacking two white girls on a train near Scottsboro, Ala., to the Supreme Court of the United States, Atty. George W. Chamblee, chief counsel for the defendants announced here today when told that the Alabama Supreme Court had denied a rehearing.

At the same time he will attempt to get a stay of execution, Attorney Chamlee, who was retained by the International Labor Defense, said.

The Alabama Supreme Court yesterday overruled an application for a rehearing of its previous decision affirming the sentence of death for seven negroes for attacking two white girls near Scottsboro last Spring.

The date of execution was fixed as Friday, May 13 in the previous decision and only an appeal to the United States Supreme Court or executive clemency remains for the defense attorneys employed by the International Labor Defense, of New York, to forestall execution of the sentence as decreed by a jury of the Jackson County Circuit Court on April 11 last year.

Atty. Gen. Knight said if the cases were appealed to the U. S. Supreme Court he would direct Alabama's defense of the decisions.

"It is the policy of this office to follow through to the U. S. Supreme Court any criminal or civil cases that are appealed," Mr. Knight said. "The records in the Scottsboro case show a fair and impartial trial. If the decision of our Supreme Court is appealed, Mr. Thomas Seay Lawson, my assistant and I will appear to defend the state."

One Word "Overruled"

The court yesterday gave its decision in one word "overruled" written beside the application which was filed by George W. Chamlee, of Chattanooga, chief counsel for the negroes, on March 25, the day after the Supreme Court in a six to one decision had affirmed the death sentences for the seven negroes.

In that decision the court reversed the death sentence of Eugene Williams, 15, holding that because of his age he was a juvenile and the Jackson County Circuit Court was without jurisdiction in his case.

Since the trials last April, Gov. Miller and the Alabama Supreme Court have received hundreds of appeals for the negroes and in some instances threat of bodily harm unless they were "immediately released."

Only this week, Atty. Gen. Knight notified the commercial telegraph companies here that if any more coercive telegrams were delivered to the court while the case was pending, he would seek to have them cited for contempt.

In the written decisions on March 24, the Supreme Court held that the trials were fair, that the trial judge did not err in denying a change of venue, upheld the right of newspapers to publish crime news and held that the 14th amendment to the Constitution was not violated, even though the panel from which the juries in the three trials were drawn did not include negroes.

Mr. Chamlee when he filed the applications for a rehearing said if the Alabama Supreme Court denied it, counsel for the negroes would immediately take steps to bring the case before the United States Supreme Court.

The negroes, Ozie Powell, 17, and Charlie Weems, 21, of Atlanta; Andy Wright, 17, and Heywood Patterson, 17, of Chattanooga; Clarence Norris, 18, and Willie Robertson, 17, of Columbus, Ga., and Olen Montgomery, 17, of Monroe, Ga., were arrested at Paint Rock, Ala., March 25, 1931, with Williams, whose sentence was reversed, and Roy Wright, 14, whose case resulted in a mistrial.

The two girls, Victoria Price and Ruby Bates, testified in the trials, that the negroes attacked them aboard a gondola car on a freight train, after throwing six of their seven white companions from the train and knocking the seventh unconscious in a fight.

The girls said they were hoboing their way home to Huntsville, Ala., after an unsuccessful search for work in Chattanooga, and at Stevenson, the negroes boarded their car and forced their companions off, then attacked them.

The train was halted at Paint Rock on a message from the Stevenson Railway agent to whom one of the youths thrown from the train reported the affair.

DOTHAN, ALA.
EAGLE

APR 4 1932

WASHING ONE'S OWN NECK, ETC.

Vassar and Wellesley are two exclusive colleges for girls. Unfortunately, however, they are exclusively only in so far as social connections are concerned, and brains apparently are not cosidered.

This surmise is drawn from the fact that the "National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners" sent two gals each from these institutions to Washington to intercede in behalf of the seven Negro brutes sentenced to die for assaulting two white girls near Scottsboro.

Senator Black was not very much impressed; he said he was too much interested in crime in the North to be diverted by the Alabama case. Andthat about sums it up.

But he might have been more forceful and accurate had he said "unpunished" crime in the North.

FALL RIVER, MASS.
HERALD-NEWS

APR 4 1932

STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS.

Now we have a group of college girls interceding in behalf of seven men, who are ~~Negroes~~, condemned to death for a crime proven against them in the courts of Alabama. This follows closely upon the visit to Kentucky of a band of college boys and girls who had interested themselves in the miners' strike in that state.

This is a rather new sort of thing in this country. Readers of newspapers are familiar with reports of activities of students in political crises abroad. Demonstrations of students generally against the government are frequently mentioned, and not a little speculation as to the seriousness of the commotion is caused among people in this country who gauge undergraduate outbreaks there in the measure of similar demonstration here and are not unduly disturbed in consequence.

One of the first essentials of intelligent effort by students or anybody else in a situation like that of the condemned men in Alabama is that they fully understand the circumstances; that they are in a position to declare from knowledge of the facts that injustice has been done. It is not difficult to appreciate the impulses to action growing out of the emotions of youth, but unless such actions are controlled by knowledge of the facts and calm judgment they are apt to lead into difficulties.

If American undergraduates, impelled by the new freedom bestowed upon the young, desire to be taken seriously when they engage in demonstrations for or against the order of things they should be certain before they start anything that they are on the right track. Otherwise, they will not get very far in popular esteem.

MARION, O.
STAR

APR 8 1932

The managers of the telegraph companies in Montgomery, Alabama, have been warned by the attorney general of that state that they will face contempt citations if any more coercive telegrams—held to be libelous, scandalous and obscene, as well—are delivered to the state supreme court, the court having been deluged with wires in protest of the sentencing of seven Negroes convicted of criminally assaulting two ~~white girls~~ at Scottsboro, Alabama. It would be something new in the way of a contempt charge, but being a party to an attempt to influence a court might well be held to come within the scope of the law.

Sheriff Who Held Off Scottsboro Mob Is Killed

[illegible]
5-13-32
Topeka
Kansas

Scotthboro, Ala., May 13—Sheriff M. L. Wann, white, who saved the eight Negro youths in the now famous Scottsboro case, from lynching, by a white mob shortly after their arrest was killed last week in a gun battle with Harry Hambrick. Sheriff Wann and a handful of deputies held a mob at bay last spring until national guardsmen reached here and tranhfered the Negro boys to Kilby prison. A few days later the boys were convicted and sentenced to death in a trial which lasted half an hour, while a mob was threatening to storm the court house.

Scottsboro Sheriff Who Protected Ten Negroes Loses Life

5-13-32
Kansas City

SCOTTSBORO, Ala.—(ANP)—Sheriff M. L. Wann of Jackson county, the Scottsboro who gained prominence for protecting from mob violence the Scottsboro boys was shot to death here and search was started for Harry Hambrick, white, 21 years old, charged with the killing.

Sheriff Wann was killed at Hambrick's residence, where he went to arrest Hambrick for vagrancy. A charge from a shotgun tore away Wann's side. Jackson county officers and posses of citizens of Jackson county combed the nearby hills today. Track dogs were brought here in an effort to pick up the trail of the man wanted for the killing. Sheriff Wann and a handful of deputies turned back an angry mob which surrounded the jail here following the arrest of the Scottsboro victims last year after they were removed from a freight train near Fort Payne, until they were reinforced by Alabama National Guardsmen ordered out by the governor.

Alabama.

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment for Rape

3710

LIVES OF 8 BOYS ARE IN DANGER ON EVE OF APPEAL

Argus

St. Louis, Mo.

1-15-32

Entrance Of Communists In Trial Causes Bitter Resentment Among Southerns

SEEN AS FAVORING CLASS

Little Publicity Given Case Since Darrow Withdrew. Feel I. L. D. Has Forced Way In

By JOHN T GRAVES

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. Jan. 14—The popularity of Clarence Darrow in Alabama has never been anything more than a microscopic, but it is a little nearer being visual to the naked eye now than it was before he came, saw and refused to take part in the defense of eight colored youths whose death sentences for alleged criminal assault on two white girls near Scottsboro last year are to be held in stay pending a plea for a new trial before the Alabama Supreme Court, January 18. The near visibility is due not so much to feeling against the prisoners as to the fact that Mr. Darrow has refused to work with the Communist International Labor Defenes which Alabamians believe has forced its way, without warrant, into the case.

Mr. Darrow declared he had "no quarrel with the Communist," but that they had prejudiced the case. Retained as a representative of the N. A. A. C. P., he offered to disassociate himself from his own organization if George W. Chamlee, Sr., attorney for the I. L. D. would do the same.

Alabamians Dislike I. L. D.

In local opinion, however, he has refused the red flag, and that is enough to endear him to many Alabamians who consider the legal issues involved in the Scottsboro case of less import now than the social and economic ones injected into it by the International Labor Defense. Liberal opinion here—and there is plenty of it—is open minded on the guilt of the accused, even if it is convinced that stories of innocence and injustice have grown mightily in transit around the world. Its mind is utterly closed, however, to argument that the case in any sense involve a class or economic struggle.

As the date for the Supreme Court hearing approaches, there is a surprising lack of comment in Alabama newspapers. Whatever has appeared has been more concerned with Mr. Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hays who was to have been associated with him in the case if the Communists had withdrawn. The Montgomery Advertiser editorial at length on Mr Darrow's statement that it is impossible to "mix law and politics," taking issue with him on the abstraction. The Birmingham News ran a long interview with him.

Expect Tense Scene

There is nothing shallow in this seeming indifference to the Scottsboro case. It reflects, rather, a desire that the hearing next week may be conducted in an atmosphere of judicial calm and that there be no recurrence of the passion at home and abroad which has prejudiced the case and misrepresented the State.

There is no doubt that Alabamians have been impressed with the international hue and cry over these 8 Negroes convicted of an offense which Southern law and Southern opinion punish with death. There is no denying, either, that many have come to believe there may be reasonable doubt of the prisoner' guilt and are glad that the case is to be reviewed in surroundings remote from the unavoidable excitement of the original scene and time. But it would be hard to find many Alabamians who believe that the State's skirts are less than clean.

RUBY BATES ADMITS SHE LIED ON BOYS

Daily Worker

New York, N.Y.

1-16-32

Jail White Worker for Aiding Scottsboro Investigation

Try to Frame Chamlee

NAACP Lawyer Again Attacks Defense

(By Telegram to Daily Worker)

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Jan. 15.—Huntsville, Alabama, police are desperately trying to suppress a letter written by Ruby Bates in which she admits that she lied against the nine innocent Scottsboro boys. Ruby Bates was the chief witness of the State in the lynch trials at Scottsboro, Alabama, in which 8 of the boys were railroaded to death sentences. A mistrial occurred in the case of 14-year old Roy Wright, the nin boy.

The letter of Ruby Bates was written to her lover, who had abandoned her. In her letter she declared the boys had never touched her.

The letter corroborates the repeated statements by the boys that Ruby had denied having any trouble whatever with the boys when she was first taken from the freight train at Paint Rock. **Ruby was forced to lie against the boys by State officials who threatened to prosecute her for prostitution unless she played game of framing up the nine innocent Negro children.**

The existence of the letter has caused quite a furore in this city. Even the Chattanooga News, which all along has been yelling for the blood of the boys and which gleefully hailed the attack of Mr. Pickens, of the N.A.A.C.P. on the defense, has been forced to question the Scottsboro lynch verdicts.

The letter of Ruby Bates was obtained by a white worker, Miron Pearlman, who knows Ruby intimately, and visited her in Huntsville, Alabama. Pearlman was arrested by the Huntsville police. The letter was found on him. There was a wild hullabaloo. Pearlman was terrorized into stating that Gen. George W. Chamlee, chief of counsel for the International Labor Defense, bribed him to intoxicate the girl and get her to write the letter. Ruby was immediately visited by the police and forced to sign a retraction saying, "she was so drunk she didn't know what she was doing."

Roddy In New Attack On Defense

The forced statement of Pearlman was used by Stephen Roddy, N.A.A.C.P. attorney, and the Huntsville police in an attempt to besmirch Chamlee and injure the Scottsboro defense. Roddy filed charges with the Chattanooga Bar Association against Chamlee, charging Chamlee with unethical conduct. The Chattanooga Bar Association is favorably disposed to Chamlee, but several of its members yesterday tried to exert pressure on him to withdraw from the Scottsboro Defense. They promised to support him in smashing the fake charges against him if he withdrew. Chamlee has refused to withdraw, stating that he will continue to work with the International Labor Defense for the release of the boys in spite of all attacks by Roddy and others.

Chamlee was cleared of the fake bribery and frame-up charges yesterday by George Proctor, special writer for the New Masses, a magazine published in New York. Proctor made a public statement that he had sent Miron Pearlman to Huntsville to get the truth about the Scottsboro case. Proctor denies that he instructed Pearlman to get the girl drunk and charges the Huntsville police with suppressing evidence exposing the frame-up of the 9 Scottsboro boys. He demands publication of the letter and denounces the Huntsville police for attempting to spike the investigation and seeking to besmirch Chamlee.

Roddy "Withdraws" From Case

Pearlman has admitted that Chamlee never gave him any money, as charged by the Huntsville police. Pearlman's lawyers declare that the Chattanooga News is exerting pressure on Pearlman to prevent him from telling the truth that he was sent to Huntsville by Proctor, and not by Chamlee.

Huntsville police are charged with tapping the wires when Pearlman called up Chamlee to ask him to notify Proctor of his arrest.

Stephen Roddy, N.A.A.C.P. attorney, announced tonight that he has "withdrawn" from the Scottsboro case, but continues his vicious attacks against the International Labor Defense. He repeats his old lies against the mothers of the Scottsboro boys, charging that the women who toured the country in support of the defense of their children were not the mothers of the boys.

This is the same lie peddled by Walter White, William Pickens and other N.A.A.C.P. misleaders when, fearing an exposure by the mothers of the boys, they denied the floor to them at meetings ostensibly called for the "defense" of the Scottsboro boys. Both the boys and their mothers and other kin have repeatedly denounced Roddy and the N.A.A.C.P. misleaders as liars and assassins of their boys.

Police Spy On I.L.D. Offices

Chattanooga police have been tipped off to spy on the local offices of the International Labor Defense. Yesterday this correspondent was trailed all day by a local Red Squad dick who thought I was Proctor.

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National I.L.D. In Sharp Protest

NEW YORK.—The national office of the International Labor Defense yesterday sent the following protest telegram to th eHuntsville Chief of Police:

"Chief of Police,
Huntsville, Alabama.

"We demand that you make public and turn over to defense attorneys for examination the letter in your possession signed by Ruby Bates which, according to newspaper reports you admit contains repudiation of her testimony against Scottsboro boys. We accuse you of suppressing evidence in case involving life and death of nine young Negro workers to assist in the frame-up against them.

3710

I. L. D.'s Meeting Proves Revelation To Chief Scottsboro Defense Lawyer

Amsterdam News

1-13-32

Geo. W. Chamlee, Tennessee White Attorney, Pledges Conscientious Service in Behalf of the Nine Alabama Boys

New York.

To George W. Chamlee, a Baptist, a Democrat and a Southerner, the mass meeting held Sunday afternoon in the Star Casino under auspices of the International Labor Defense, which has employed him to head the legal defense for the nine Scottsboro boys, was a "revelation."

This much he told the audience of some 2,500 Communists and party sympathizers who gathered to hear him. He also stated that he was unaccustomed to mass demonstrations in a law case. "It is the lawyer's business to demonstrate in court," he said. Whatever else he may have thought of the revolutionary character of the speeches, the (to him) strange medley of black, white, native and foreign-born workers, the attacks on the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, he kept discreetly to himself.

But the Baptist lawyer from Chattanooga was cheered roundly as he pledged anew his "best, honest and most conscientious service" to free the boys, asserting that he would carry the case to the United States Supreme Court if necessary. Mr. Chamlee outlined the basis on which a new trial will be asked for the boys when their case will be argued before the Alabama Supreme Court on January 21.

Other speakers included Harold Williams of the League of Struggle for Negro Rights; Miss Sadie Van Veen of the women's department of the Communist party; J. Louis Engdahl, general secretary of the I. L. D.; Lowell Wakefield, Southern representative of the I. L. D., who was in Scottsboro at the time of the trial; Richard B. Moore, who made the appeal for a collection for the defense, which netted $168.73; B. D. Amos, of the central committee of the Communist party; Joseph R. Brodsky, New York attorney for the I. L. D., and Carl Hacker, who presided. A resolution condemning the N. A. A. C. P. and demanding that the funds which it collected for the Scottsboro defense be turned over to the I. L. D., was passed.

Asked at the conclusion of the meeting by a reporter from The Amsterdam News whether or not he accepted the I. L. D.'s stand on social equality, Mr. Chamlee smiled and said he preferred postponing answering the question until after the trial.

Chamlee Appears Before Supreme Court

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—George W. Chamlee of Chattanooga, former attorney-general of Tennessee and chief counsel for the International Labor Defense in the Scottsboro case, appeared in the United States Supreme Court today in preparation for a possible appeal from the Supreme Court of Alabama.

Mr. Chamlee stated here that, should the Alabama court refuse on January 21 to grant new trials to the nine boys sentenced on false charges of rape in Scottsboro, Ala., he would appeal the case for the International Labor Defense to the highest court of the country.

ALABAMA APPROVES ACTION OF DARROW

Refusal to Work With Communist Counsel in Scottsboro Case Wins Praise.

OUTSIDERS ARE RESENTED

N. Y. Times.

State Annoyed at Exploitation of Trial of Eight Negroes as a Class Struggle.

1-10-32

By JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES 2d.

Editorial Correspondence, THE NEW YORK TIMES

BIRMINGHAM, Jan. 7.—The popularity of Clarence Darrow in Alabama has never been anything more than microscopic, but it is a little nearer being visible to the naked eye now than it was before he came, saw and refused a part in defense of eight Negroes whose death sentences for alleged criminal assault on two white girls near Scottsboro last year are held in stay pending a plea for a new trial before the Alabama Supreme Court on Jan. 18. The near visibility is due not so much to feeling against the Negroes as to the fact that Mr. Darrow has refused to work with the Communist International Labor Defense which Alabamians believe has forced its way without warrant into the case.

The refinement of reasoning with which Mr. Darrow explained his withdrawal has little attention here. He declared that he had "no quarrel with Communists as such," but that they had prejudiced the case; that it was impossible to "mix politics with law," and that his own appearance, under the circumstances, would simply inspire more prejudice. Retained as a representative of the Association for the Advancement of Colored People, he offered to disassociate himself from his client organization if George W. Chamblee Sr., attorney for the International Labor Defense, would do the same. In other words, Mr. Darrow has damned, not the Communists, but the situation which they have brought about through their activities in the case.

No Class Struggle Seen.

In local opinion, however, he has refused the red flag, and that is enough to endear him to many Alabamians who consider the legal issues involved in the Scottsboro case of less import now than the social and economic ones injected into it by the International Labor Defense. Liberal opinion here—and there is plenty of it—is openminded on the disputed fairness of the trial and the guilt of the accused, even if it is convinced that stories of innocence and injustice have grown mightily in transit around the world. Its mind is utterly closed, however, to argument that the case in any sense involves a class or economic struggle.

As the date for the Supreme Court hearing approaches, there is a surprising lack of comment in Alabama newspapers. Whatever has appeared has been more concerned with Mr. Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hays, who was to have been associated with him in the case if the Communists had withdrawn. The Montgomery Advertiser editorialized at length on Mr. Darrow's statement that it is impossible to "mix law and politics," taking issue with him on the abstraction. The Birmingham News ran a long interview with him, in which he was quoted as endorsing Newton D. Baker for President, philosophizing over human motives in general, admitting himself in financial need of keeping up his law practice, reminiscing about the Scopes trial and the Leopold-Loeb case, scoffing at the Pope's recent gesture for bringing all Christians into the Roman Catholic Church, musing over H. L. Mencken and matrimony, insisting on Thomas Edison's agnosticism and declaring that the world must "starve itself out" as a solution for present economic troubles.

Calm Hearing Desired.

There is nothing shallow in this seeming indifference to the Scottsboro case. It reflects, rather, a desire that the hearing next week may be conducted in an atmosphere of judicial calm and that there be no recurrence of the passion at home and abroad which has prejudiced the case and misrepresented the State.

There is no doubt that Alabamians have been impressed with the international hue and cry over these eight Negroes convicted of an offense which Southern law and Southern opinion punish with death. There is no denying, either, that many have come to believe there may be reasonable doubt of the prisoners' guilt and are glad that the case is to be reviewed in surroundings remote from the unavoidable excitement of the original scene and time. But it would be hard to find many Alabamians who believe that the State's skirts are less than clean in the effort to see impartial justice done throughout the whole affair or who do not resent the misinformation and propaganda that have made Alabama a target for so much abuse from the very beginning.

Without benefit of the international labor defense, Theodore Dreiser, or any other outside influences, a mistrial was declared here recently in the case of a Negro accused of killing two Birmingham society girls under circumstances which had aroused the entire State. This trial is being pointed as answer enough to those who believe that the Negro is utterly without benefit of law in the South today.

The Reds at Scottsboro

Afro

When the Scottsboro case broke in Alabama and the N.A.A.C.P. and the International Labor Defense movement disagreed as to who should provide counsel for the eight boys condemned to death for rape, THE AFRO urged one or the other of the organizations to retire and added we have too few friends to have the quarrel as to which we shall lend a helping hand in any given case.

Some $12,000 in legal and other fees was expended and the war between the two bodies continued even after each had signed up four defendants, altho it seemed that with such a fair division each should have been satisfied.

1/9/32

Last week came announcement that the I.L.D. had stolen the N.A.A.C.P.'s four defendants and now represented all eight boys. Clarence Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hayes, celebrated attorneys, sent by the N.A.A.C.P. to Scottsboro to perfect the appeal, found themselves without clients.

Efforts at compromise having failed, Mr. Darrow and Mr. Hayes having declined to associate themselves with the Reds, and the Communists, on their side, having refused the offer of the N.A.A.C.P. attorneys to act together for the boys and to discard the names of both organizations, the case stands clear cut.

The I.L.D. represents the boys, all of them. It must assume the responsibility, as grave as it is. The spotlight is upon the Reds.

N.A.A.C.P. agencies claim the Communists are not sincere, that they do not desire to save the boys, but to make revolutionary propaganda.

As sole representatives of the eight condemned boys, the I.L.D. has a chance to test its methods in Dixie, to prove its sincerity. A victory would aid its cause everywhere. A defeat will give it a damaging black eye, and the fact that it is sole representative in the case makes it impossible to escape the censure for defeat or the reward for victory.

Scottsboro Seven Safe Till June 24

Advertiser

Granting application formally presented yesterday by defense attorneys, the Alabama Supreme Court issued an order staying until Friday, June 24—pending appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States—execution of the death sentences imposed on seven negroes, convicted at Scottsboro in March, a year ago, of criminally assaulting two young white women. 4-20-32

Date of execution of the negroes had previously been fixed as Friday, May 13, by the Supreme Court of the State, after that tribunal had affirmed judgments of the Jackson Circuit Court in all seven cases. The high court's judgment of affirmance was rendered on March 24, this year. Applications for rehearing filed soon thereafter, were recently denied.

All Justices of the Supreme Court concurred in upholding the trial court's action except Chief Justice John C. Anderson, who dissented. The case of one other defendant, Eugene Williams, was reversed and remanded for determination of the question raised as to whether he was over 16 years old. In this holding Chief Justice Anderson joined.

Montgomery Ala.

Effort will now be made by defense counsel to have the seven affirmed cases reviewed by the Supreme Court of the United States, through the filing with that Court of application for certiorari. When this is done, copy of the record of all proceedings in connection with these cases, which have taken place in the Supreme Court of Alabama, will also be submitted. This copy will be furnished by the office of the clerk of Alabama's highest court of law.

The cases which the U. S. Supreme Court will be asked to review, are those of Haywood Patterson, Charlie Weems, Clarence Norris, Ozie Powell, Willie Roberson, Andy Wright and Olen Montgomery.

ALABAMA COURT STAYS EXECUTION OF NEGROES

Constitution

MONTGOMERY, Ala., April 19.—(AP)—The Alabama supreme court today suspended the date of execution for seven young negroes sentenced to die May 13 for attacks on two young white girls near Paintrock, Ala., March 25, 1931, to permit their attorneys to prepare an appeal to the United States supreme court. 4-20-32

The court set June 24 as the date of execution, this being the end of the 90-day period after the sentences were affirmed in which the defense must file its appeal before the United States supreme court.

Atlanta Ga.

Lynchings-1932

Alabama.

3711

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Langston Hughes to Give Proceeds of Book to Scottsboro Defense

Daily Worker

NEW YORK.—Langston Hughes, noted Negro poet and novelist, who has been lecturing throughout the south and west on literary subjects, has also delivered a number of speeches on behalf of the Scottsboro boys and lauding the work of the International Labor Defense which is handling the Scottsboro defense. He visited the eight innocent Negro boys held in the death cells of Kilby prison, bringing them cigarettes and encouragement, and has appealed for funds for the strengthening of the campaign. 6-11-32

His new book, entitled Scottsboro Limited, containing his play on the hideous frame-up of these working-class Negro youths, containing also four of his poems of this subject, and several original lithographs by Prentiss Taylor, is to be published in a few days by the Golden Stair Dress, 23 Bank Street, New York City, to sell for 75c. The entire proceeds that accrue to Langston Hughes personally will be given to the Scottsboro Defense Fund of the International Labor Defense.

Scottsboro Death Order Suspended

Advertiser

On petition of the defendants, made through counsel, the Alabama Supreme Court yesterday issued an order suspending execution of the death sentences until final action by the U. S. Supreme Court on the certiorari now pending before that tribunal, of the seven negroes condemned to death for criminally assaulting two white girls, near Scottsboro, in March, 1931. 6-10-32

Text of the order of the Alabama Supreme Court follows: "The writ of certiorari having been awarded in this case by the United States Supreme Court upon petition of the defendants, the sentence is suspended to await the action of the United States Supreme Court and the cause is continued and kept in fieri in order that the date for the execution of the death sentence may be reset in the event the certiorari is finally denied. The clerk will send a copy of this order to the warden of Kilby Prison."

Montgomery.

This order applies to each case and each of the seven defendants and in accordance with the instruction given—a copy has been dispatched to Warden George P. Walls. Under the official order, execution of the sentences, which had been set for June 24 is suspended [illegible] remain suspended pending the U. S. Supreme Court's final action. That court, ~~in granting the certiorari set~~ [illegible] arguments in the cases for Oct. 10.

SELMA, ALA.
TIMES-JOURNAL
JUN 1 1932

SCOTTSBORO CASES WILL PROBABLY BE RETRIED

The decision of the United States Supreme Court to review the trial and conviction of the seven Scottsboro negroes who were found guilty of criminal ~~assault and condemned~~ to die, the sentences being upheld by our own state Supreme Court, is confirmatory of the unbiased opinion of all who are familiar with the facts of this extraordinary case. This paper took occasion at the time of the trials to vigorously protest against the highly inflamed proceeding in the Jackson county court, which bore no resemblance to the constitutional guarantee of a fair and impartial trial. There is a strong human propensity to thirst for vengeance when crimes that shock the prejudices and stir the passions of people are committed, and to pronounce peremptory judgment against those who are tarred with suspicion. But the law and the courts are supposed to stand as bulwarks of protection against these outbursts of feeling and to give to accused persons, no matter how reeking their offense, every consideration which justice and equity demand.

As stated in our previous comments on these cases, we know nothing about the guilt or innocence of the miserable wretches who were convicted and given the death sentence "under the forms of the law." However, the external circumstances of the trials stand unchallenged. They were conducted under the menace of armed militia and frowning machine guns summoned to hold in leash the pent-up feelings of the surging masses which milled about the court-house. The presence of the militia itself in the court-room was ample ground for branding the proceeding as a miscarriage of justice. According to the Associated Press reports the "verdict against Weems and Norris brought such a demonstration of approval in the packed court-room that Judge J. A. Hawkins threatened [illegible] clear the room if such disturbances were repeated." A court proceeding of evenhanded justice could not be conducted under such conditions of high tension and vindictive feeling.

It is considered quite probable that the Supreme Court which has taken the almost unprecedented course of assuming jurisdiction of these cases, in order to assure compliance with constitutional guarantees ,will send the cases back to Alabama for retrial to be conducted under conditions more consistent with the dignity and high repute of courts of law.

HERALD
Raleigh, N.C.
JUN 9 1932

The United States Supreme Court has decided to review the Scottsboro case, involving seven Negroes, all young, convicted and sentenced ~~to death~~ in Alabama on charges of rape. It is charged the men, some of whom are mere boys, were tried in an atmosphere of mob violence and that they were in reality victims of "mob justice."

Enough has been disclosed about the trial to make it desirable that an impartial tribunal of the highest standing, such as the Supreme Court, should carefully examine and sift the evidence in the case. Evidence of mob feeling manifested at the trial is not the only reason for review of the case. There is evidence indicating grave doubt of the guilt of at least some of the accused youths.

Communists have taken advantage of the case to push their propaganda among Negroes and to charge all over the world that it is an example of American injustice toward the Negroes. This makes it all the more desirable that every precaution be taken that injustice is not done in the case. Decision of the Supreme Court to review the case should serve to clear the atmosphere surrounding the conviction and sentences of the men.

Chattanooga, Tenn.
NEWS
JUN 10 1932

Review on Scottsboro

THAT the United States Supreme Court has consented to review the Scottsboro case causes a feeling of general relief in the South. The high tribunal cannot acquit the seven ~~Negro boys~~ who are under death sentence, but it can determine whether all the circumstances surrounding their trial were in accordance with their constitutional rights. Whether a new trial would result in another death sentence would, of course, be on the knees of the gods.

If the facts are completely presented, it seems to us that there will be a good case. Certainly the propaganda of the I. L. D., which so befuddled the affair in Alabama, will have no effect whatever on the hearing in the Supreme Court. If there is ground for setting aside the verdict, and if this ground is not presented adequately to the Court, the fault will lay, not with an evil system, but with the attorneys for the condemned youths.

Some of the points which will be considered, according to advance information from attorneys, are that the trial judge refused to change the place of trial to another county, although there was strong feeling at Scottsboro; that the Negroes did not have time to prepare an adequate defense; that the right to question prospective jurors concerning race prejudice was denied, and that Negroes were not permitted on the jury. It is further charged that the boys had no chance to confer with relatives or friends, or with counsel.

The majority of the Alabama Supreme Court reviewed these facts and held that the trial was not unfair. The Chief Justice of that Court, however, dissented.

A somewhat similar case was reviewed by the Supreme Court in 1923, growing out of the Elaine riots in Arkansas. The Supreme Court, by a 7-to-2 vote, with McReynolds and Sutherland dissenting, overruled the Arkansas Supreme Court. The lives of a group of Negroes were eventually spared through that decision. But, in 1915, the Supreme Court refused to overrule the Georgia verdict in the Leo Frank case, when somewhat similar arguments were presented.

The actual evidence produced at the trial will not be reviewed. In the review, however, the Fourteenth Amendment will be considered, particularly the first article, which says: "No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States, nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

The vital point in the Scottsboro case will be found in the words, "due process of law." It will be a relief to the South to have the United States Supreme Court pass upon the case. We feel that, at least for the moment, the distressing affair, which propagandists are so anxious to make a *cause celebre*, even at the expense of the lives of the seven youths, has been taken out of the realm of selfish agitation. Possibly, had the case been handled more in accordance with the securing of justice, and less in regard to propaganda, the youths might have been saved by weight of evidence in Alabama.

HUTCHINSON, KANS.
NEWS

JUN 2 1932

AN "IMPOSSIBLE" CASE

The Supreme Court of the United States will review the sentence of the seven Negroes convicted of assaulting two white girls near Scottsboro, Alabama. The Negroes were to have been executed June 24, but postponement of that action is now expected. The court will decide whether the convictions should be set aside.

The case is one of those "impossible" ones which from time to time come out of the South. One can almost decide for himself which side to take, whichever way his sympathies lean.

The South thinks it and it alone knows how to handle such cases where Negroes are involved. It is all very difficult because there it is almost impossible to keep the racial phases of the matter out of the case. It is to be hoped that the Supreme Court's decision in the matter should settle it to the satisfaction of everyone except the die-hard radicals who are more extreme on the other side and who fight for a principle rather than over the true and specific details of an individual case.

YOUNGSTOWN, O.
VINDICATOR

JUN 9 1932

The Scottsboro Case

The Scottsboro case which is to be discussed here tonight has given occasion for such unfavorable criticism of American courts that the country will welcome the review of it which the United States Supreme Court has granted.

Under the Alabama law imposing the death penalty for attacks upon women, eight Negroes were condemned to die for assaulting two white girls who were riding with them in a box car. In presenting the case to the Supreme Court, their attorney contended that the trial judge had improperly in view of the state of local feeling, refused to change the place of trial to another county; that the Negroes had been forced to trial without proper preparation; that the right had been denied to question the prospective jurors regarding race prejudice; and that Negroes had been excluded from service on the jury. In short, they were denied the right of fair trial guaranteed by the Constitution.

The verdict was affirmed by the Alabama Supreme Court, although the Chief Justice dissented holding that the men had not been fairly tried. A review by the highest court in the land should end what has become a international controversy over what the Manchester Guardian calls a "lamentable affair" that "has every appearance of mass lynching."

(Special to The Pittsburgh Courier)

WASHINGTON, May 19—With armed officers standing as sentinels, the stately building housing the United States Supreme Court was fortified Monday against a possible demonstration by Communists, who are urging the supreme tribunal to intervene in the case of the doomed Scottsboro (Ala.) youths. Nothing occurred to mar the calmness of the judicial atmosphere, however, and the distinguished looking justices took their place.

Courier

In addition to the policemen assigned to the court to preserve order, two others in uniform watched closely as the usual line formed at the doors to await admittance to the court. No one among the spectators was questioned, however.

In the clerk's office it was said this was the first time that extra officers had been detailed to the court to forestall a reported Communist demonstration. On several occasions, however, extra policemen have been assigned to the Capitol, and at the opening of the sessions several hundred officers were lined in front of the broad plaza to prevent disorder among marchers who moved up Capitol Hill demanding unemployment insurance and other relief.

5-21-32

While the question has not yet formally reached the court, many letters have been received from Communists in different countries urging the court to intervene in the Scottsboro case.

Pittsburgh
Pa

The court cannot act until attorneys for the lads file a formal petition. Apparently they plan to wait until court adjourns to file the petition and then will ask a stay of execution for the condemned youths so the court may decide next October whether it will take up and consider the circumstances which led to the death

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MODESTO, CAL.
NEWS HERALD

JUN 8 - 1932

Justice Served In Case Of Negroes

The Supreme Court of the United States announces it will review the case of seven Negro youths, convicted of an attack on two white women and sentenced to death at Scottsboro, Ala. This will act as a stay of execution until next Fall.

Justice will be well served by this action.

For it is the opinion of those who studied the case impartially that all seven youths were sentenced to be hanged simply because of the color of their skins.

The women in the case were of very dubious reputation. And the attack on them is said to have taken place in a freight car in which they were traveling from one Alabama town to another in the company of several men of equally dubious character.

Some of their companions were white; but none of these was taken into custody as a result of the women's complaint to the authorities.

But raise a whisper of accusation against a black—even when the white woman involved belongs to the scarlet sisterhood—and a savage cry for blood goes up in certain sections of our country.

Yet let the woman be of darker pigment and the man white—and not a finger of protest will be raised in her behalf.

How inconsistent is humanity when its deep-seated prejudices are concerned!

MONITOR-INDEX
MOBERLY, MO.

JUN 18 1932

THE SCOTTSBORO CASE

So widespread has been the discussion involving the trial and conviction in Scottsboro, Ala., of the seven Negro youths charged with criminal assault, that many persons will be relieved to know that the United States Supreme Court has decided to review the case. The plea for review was based on the ground of failure to observe the due-process-of-law provision of the Constitution.

Although Alabama's highest court upheld the trial proceedings and declined to interfere with the sentence, there has persisted much criticism as to the claimed injustices surrounding this case.

Unfortunately, Communists, following their usual practices, adopted the case as their own and sought to make political capital out of it. But divested of Communist oratory, the charges of injustice have been based on the inflamed public opinion in the community and the high partisan spirit of the crowd at the trial, requiring the national guard to maintain order; on the refusal of the trial judge to grant a change of venue; and on the failure of the defense counsel to sum up for the defense.

It was upon the above alleged facts that the United States Supreme Court admitted the case for rehearing and by so doing, automatically stayed the execution of the seven young men, which had been set for next Friday.

Whatever may be the nature of the accusation or evidence, a fair and impartial trial is necessary to meet the ends of justice. The record of this Scottboro case clearly indicates there is need for the kind of review which the federal court will give, and by its decision to pass upon the facts the supreme court has recognized the possibility of grave error and injustice.

SAN DIEGO, CAILF
SUN

JUN 3 - 1932

Liberal Law

THE supreme court has granted to seven Negro youths a review of the gallows sentences imposed on them by a Scottsboro, Ala., jury for alleged assault on two white women.

In this case the test of the Anglo-Saxon ideal of justice—a fair trial—was squarely posed, and the court, whatever it may decide next fall, can only be praised for deciding to consider in full the implication's of Alabama's alleged outburst of racial hatred.

AN EXECUTION POSTPONED
Negro Case in U.S.

Guardian Weekly

6-3-32

(From our New York Correspondent.)

The seven negro lads sentenced to death in the famous Scottsboro case for an alleged assault on two white girls will not be executed on June 24, the date fixed. The United States Supreme Court on Tuesday decided that it would accept jurisdiction in the case and hear the arguments next October. The execution is postponed at least until then, and counsel have high hopes that the Court may order a new trial, since it did so in a strikingly similar case some years ago.

NEW PLEA RECEIVED IN SCOTTSBORO CASE

Constitution

6-9-32

MONTGOMERY, A'a., June 8.—(AP)—A new plea in behalf of seven negroes condemned to death for an attack on two white girls near Scottsboro, Ala., March 25, 1931, today reached Governor B. M. Miller's office from Philadelphia, Pa.

The plea contained 10,620 signatures and 180 group indorsements assembled by the Scottsboro case committee of Philadelphia and transmitted to the governor in one package. The indorsements were elaborately bound in imitation leather.

Atlanta, Ga.

ASKS HELP FOR BOYS IN SCOTTSBORO CASE

Amsterdam News

An appeal for funds to help carry on the fight to save the Scottsboro boys from the Alabama electric chair was made to members of the Dunbar Literary Club by its president, Leo Baker, Sunday, at the West 135th Street Y. M. C. A.

6-15-32

Mr. Baker, who was addressing the regular semi-monthly meeting of the club, called attention to the fact that full co-operation of all persons interested in justice and fair play is necessary if the youths, now held in Kilby Prison at Montgomery, are to escape the chair.

Lynchings - 1932

Legal Punishment for Rage.

Alabama.

3712

Reflections

By WILLIAM PICKENS

(For the Associated Negro Press.)

Amsterdam News

N. Y. City N. Y.

Scottsboro Cases

THE FIGHT for the nine Negro boys in the Scottsboro situation has really just begun. Let us not be too optimistic. Such "optimism" is far more foolish than the worst pessimism. Some people seem to think that it is all over but the shouting, because the Supreme Court agrees to "hear" the appeal of the cases.

Let us look the thing in the face: 7/6/32

1. This action by itself only postpones the date of the boys' possible execution: for an agreement to hear the appeal is not an agreement to agree to give them a new trial in Alabama.

2 But let us dare to be optimistic enough to say that next fall, or as soon thereafter as the Supreme Court takes up this case, they will agree with the boys' attorneys, grant the writ and so order a new trial—or rather a first real trial—in Alabama. In that case, the fate of the boys is still in the hands of an Alabama jury. And it will take supreme tact and good sense, as well as legal ability, to get an acquittal, especially in the wake of all the unfortunate and prejudicial sentiment that has been stirred up in Alabama against the boys.

3. This new trial, even if we are so fortunate as to have it ordered, will be the boys' very last chance, and will be in Alabama hands, and unfortunately under Communist auspices. If Mr. Pollak, their chief counsel, who, we hear, is an able attorney, can only persuade the Communists to stop their efforts to "try the cases on the hustings," and have them to leave it to the lawyers they have hired, there is a bare chance that the damage already done might be partially overcome in the next Alabama trial (if they get a "next). Nothing is sure so far, except the bare fact that the Supreme Court has agreed to "hear." We trust that they are not going to hear it simply to "wash their hands."

But there is one thing absolutely sure, as sure as it has always been:

that they will lose this case if they use the same tactics which they have so far used, if they handicap their lawyers by allowing a lot of fool telegrams and idiotic "demands" to be sent to the court and the authorities by a lot of ignorant nuts in Detroit, Chicago and Moscow, who know absolutely nothing, either about the "Negro question" in America or about the limitations of Alabama civilization.

If the members of the I. L. D. really want to save these boys, they have one last chance (maybe), though a very slim one—IF they can hold their horses while the case is in court, and then shoot all their ballyhoo after the trial is over.

We shall see!

EXTEND WRIGHT-ENGDAHL TOUR

Daily Worker

New York

Scottsboro Mother Fight Spreads

7-7-32

The tour of Mrs. Ada Wright and J. Louis Engdahl, who are arousing Europe with the Scottsboro message, may be greatly extended, it was announced today at the national office of the International Labor Defense. Mrs. Wright, who is now in England, will proceed directly to the Scandinavian countries, Norway, Sweden, and Denmark. She will be joined there by Engdahl, who addressed huge gatherings in Berlin on July 3, at which the Scottsboro question and the demonstration against fascism made a joint issue for the crowds in both Lustgarten and Karlshof. In the Lustgarten, according to the New York Times of July 5 there were 150,000 persons assembled

After the Scandinavian tour, the I.L.D. states, the tour as now planned will include re-visiting Geneva where both Engdahl and Mrs. Wright both spoke a few weeks ago, in order that they may attend the World Congress Against War to be held there early in August. From Geneva the two Scottsboro champions will proceed to Spain and the southern provinces of France, then go to the Baltan countries, Bulgaria and Greece.

HAIL MRS. WRIGHT ON FRENCH TOUR

Daily Worker

Response of Workers Alarms U. S.

6-28-32

PARIS, June 27 (By Radio).—With a giant Scottsboro protest demonstration in Orleans, near Paris, Mrs Ada Wright, mother of two of the Scottsboro boys, began the extension of the Scottsboro campaign into the French provinces. She is accompanied by J. Louis Engdahl, national secretary of the International Labor Defense. New York,

Engdahl was arrested after the Orleans meeting on an alleged irregularity in his passport. Mass protests forced his release. The American Ambassador and the French authorities are nervous because of the tremendous response of the French masses to the Scottsboro appeal.

Scottsboro demonstrations were held last Saturday and Sunday in Bethune, Carvin and Seclin in the coal mining district in northern France. Both Mrs. Wright and Engdahl spoke at these meetings, which were also addressed by Comrade Chauvet, secretary of the French section of the International Red Aid.

* * *

NEW YORK.—The giant demonstrations of European workers against the Scottsboro lynch verdicts have tremendously inspired the Negro and white workers of this country in their fight to free the nine Scottsboro youths. Huge Scottsboro demonstrations were held in Cleveland, Boston and other American cities on June 24, the date which had been set by the Alabama Supreme Court for the legal massacre of seven of the boys. World-wide mass protest forced the U. S. Supreme Court to agree to review the lynch verdicts.

The hearing has been set for October 10. The workers can have no illusions in the enemy courts. These innocent boys can be freed only by building and strengthening the mass fight.

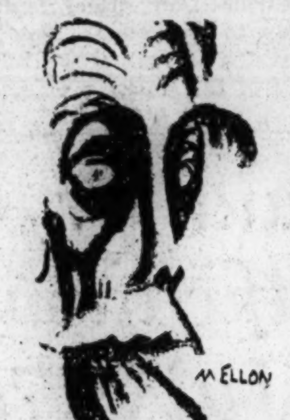
BRITISH PROTEST ON SCOTTSBORO; BIG WRIGHT MEET

Daily Worker

Mellon Refuses to Hear Delegation

7/8/32.

LONDON, England, July 7 (by radio)—Andrew Mellon, millionaire ammbassador of the U. S. to Great Britain, arrogantly refused to receive a deputation of university professors



and students who came to protest the attempted legal lynching of the Scottsboro boys.

Mrs. Ada Wright's tour of Great Britain was a tremendous success. She spoke to packed meetings in London, Willesden, Greenwich, Bristol, Loche, Kirkcaldy, Glasgow, Manchester, and Shoreditch, thus covering England and Scotland in a wave of working class mass protest on behalf of the Scottsboro boys. Demonstrations through the streets took place in Willesden, Bristol, Dundee, Glasgow and Shoreditch. The great enthusiasm showed in the fact that 500 new recruits joined the British section of the International Labor Defense. Resolutions were passed and sent to the American authorities. Deputations were elected from the meetings which visited the American embassies and consulates in protest against the Scottsboro lynch verdicts. Protest petitions were sent to Governor B. M. Miller of Alabama.

At a press conference held the day after Mrs. Wright arrived in England, seven professors, sixteen university readers and lecturers, and 252 students signed a strong petition to the American embassy, demanding that the American government release the Scottsboro youths and the other Negro workers held wrongfully in America (Euel Lee or "Orphan Joes" is among those meant).

Scottsboro Mother's Tour is Extended

Afro American

NEW YORK CITY.—(CNA)—The European tour of Mrs. Ada Wright mother of Roy and Andy, two of the nine Scottsboro boys, is to be greatly extended, according to a radiogram received here from Berlin, Germany.

Mrs. Wright who is now in England, will proceed directly to the Scandinavian countries — Norway, Sweden and Denmark.

After the Scandinavian tour, the trip as now planned will take Mrs. Wright to Geneva once more, where she spoke a few weeks ago, and early in August to the World Congress against War. From Geneva, she will proceed to Spain and the Southern provinces of France, then to the Balkan countries, to Bulgaria and to Greece.

Mrs. Wright, together with J. Louis Engdahl, national secretary of the International Labor Defense of America, left the United States late in April at the invitation of the German Red Aid, sister organization to the I.L.D. They have already toured Germany, Austria, Czecho-Slovakia, Switzerland, France, Holland, Belgium, and England.

The authorities of both Belgium and England attempted to keep them from entering the country. Mrs. Wright was arrested at the Belgian border and deported to France, and was later refused a visa to visit England. However, later the officials of both countries admitted the Scottsboro mother.

SPEAKING IN EUROPE

Courier 7-16-32

Paris, Fr.

Here (reading right to left) are J. Louis Engdahl, secretary of the International Labor Defense, and Mrs. Ada Wright, mother of two Scottsboro boys, Roy and Andy Wright, as they appeared recently at a Scottsboro protest meeting in Paris. With them are two French revolutionary leaders, Jean Richetta, secretary of the Federation of Textile Workers, and Marcel Cachin, editor of the revolutionary journal, L'Humanite.

OAKLAND, CAL.
TRIBUNE

JUN 9 - 1932

UP TO HIGH COURT.

The Scottsboro case has been lifted from the fog of Communist propaganda and into the light of fact and record, with the granting by the United States Supreme Court of a writ of *certiorari* in the case of the seven boys condemned to death. Though the Negro boys were not Communists and did not know anything about that organization, the apparent injustices connected with their arrest and trial were seized upon as material for Red propaganda. Offices of attorneys were refused by self-appointed committees who have given more attention to the program of protest than to the plight of the boys.

The charges are that the boys had no opportunity to consult with friends or relatives, or with counsel; that they were tried in an excited town, with troops on guard and hostile crowds milling through the streets; that sentiment was stirred to high pitch, and counsel made no effort to sum up in their behalf. The Supreme Court in Alabama held that an unfair trial was not proved but the dissenting opinion of the Chief Justice furnishes interesting reading. It was evidently enough to convince the United States Supreme Court that the facts warrant further study.

"New Leader" and Scottsboro

Daily Worker

7-19-32

WE ask those workers who still express some faith in the Socialist Party: Does one help the nine innocent Scottsboro boys or their capitalist hangmen by making the criminal and unfounded charge that the Scottsboro Case (i. e. the world wide protest against the legal lynching of the boys) has been converted into a "Communist Racket"?

An article in the July 16th New Leader, official organ of the Socialist Party declares:

New York N.Y.

"Engdahl and Mrs. Wright are travelling in all the great cities of Europe, but he is not telling the European workers how the Scottsboro Case has been converted into a Communist racket."

Why should the executioners in the state of Alabama stay their bloody hand under the pressure of a Communist "racketeer" protest? The meaning of this "socialist" agitation is clear! The "honest" New Leader sneaks in some filthy arguments for the use of the Southern lynchers. It makes another "clean" united front with the hangmen of the working class!

PLEDGE FIGHT FOR SCOTTSBORO BOYS

Daily Worker

New York

Youngstown Workers Cheer Lucille Wright

6-14-32

YOUNGSTOWN, O., June 13.—Eight hundred steel workers packed the Ukrainian Hall to hear little Lucille Wright, sister of two of the innocent Scotsboro boys. Delayed in her arrival, the meeting elected a delegation of Negro and white workers to meet her at the train. As she entered the hall, the workers rose to their feet cheering and sang the "Internationale."

Her appearance on the platform again roused great enthusiasm, while the Pioneers sang "Solidarity." Her appeal was simple and strong. At the end of her address she asked: "Are you going to let the bosses burn my brothers and the other boys in the electric chair?" The eight hundred workers rose and in one voice shouted a thunderous "NO!"

The workers also gave an enthusiastic reception to the son of Orphan Jones, framed-up Negro farm-hand facing legal lynching in the State of Maryland. Young Jones who lives in Youngstown, made a stirring appeal for the workers to continue and build the mass defense for his father. The workers cheered as he declared his solidarity with the revolutionary movement and joined the Young Communist League.

Comrade Abe Lewis, Communist candidate for Sheriff in Mahoning County, reported on the National Nominating Convention and the Communist program for the elections. Cheering broke out when Lewis announced the Communist candidates for President and Vice-President. "Foster for president! Ford for vice-president! Not a vote for the bosses' political parties! Vote Communist!"—the workers shouted.

The workers voted in a body for the immediate and unconditional release of the Scottsboro boys. A resolution was also unanimously adopted calling for the most militant struggle against the Alien Deportation Bill just passed by the House of Representatives in Washington. Scores of Negro and white workers joined the International Labor Defense.

MONTGOMERY, ALA
JOURNAL & TIMES

JUN 16 1932

HAVE EVEN CHANCE

The seven negroes sentenced to be executed in connection with the world-famous Scottsboro outrage have an even chance of having their sentences commuted if the high courts uphold their conviction, past records show. During 1931, the first year of Governor Miller's administration, four negroes went to the electric chair and sentences of four others condemned to die were commuted to life imprisonment. The death sentence of one white man was commuted during the year, and the fact that commutations have outnumbered the actual executions may or may not mean that the Scottsboro negroes have more than an even chance. State records reveal that 20 persons have been sentenced to electrocution during the past three years; of these, 12 were executed and eight received commutation. This information was compiled for Dr. Vitale G. Gallina, acting Italian consul at New Orleans, who requested it in a wire to Governor Miller. Dr. Gallina made no mention of the Scottsboro case, but corridorites generally believed that it was in the interest of the case that he made the request.

NEED FUNDS FOR SCOTTSBORO CASE

Daily Worker

New York

6-18-32

I.L.D. in Urgent Appeal to Workers

NEW YORK.—In an urgent appeal for funds to conduct the fight against the lynch verdicts against seven of the nine Scottsboro boys and to push the campaign for the release on bail of the two other boys, the national office of the International Labor Defense yesterday issued the following statement:

Alleged Case

"Roy Wright has been in prison for fifteen months without a trial. He has almost completely lost his sight since being in jail. Eugene Williams has been ordered retried by the Alabama Supreme Court. The State of Alabama has made no attempt to try them. The International Labor Defense is now launching a fight to free these two boys, youngest of the Scottsboro nine, on bail pending their trial.

Funds are needed for this and for the appeal to the United States Supreme Court.

The lack of funds may mean disastrous results for the whole fight to save the Scottsboro boys.

Send funds immediately to International Labor Defense National Office, 80 East 11th St. New York City."

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Alabama.

3713

MILWAUKEE, WIS.
SENTINEL
JUN 1 3 1932

The Scottsboro Case

The supreme court of the United States decided to take jurisdiction in the Scottsboro case. It may come on for hearing in the fall.

The defendants were to have been hanged on June 24. The action of the federal high court automatically defers the execution. Whether it will be permanently abrogated depends upon the decision of the court when the case comes on for hearing.

The appeal is from a decision of the supreme court of Alabama, rendered March 24, 1932, in which it affirmed the conviction of seven of the eight young Negroes. The conviction of the eighth defendant, Eugene Williams, was reversed because under the Alabama statutes the trial court did not have jurisdiction over a boy under 16 years of age. There had originally been nine defendants, but the jury in the trial court disagreed in the case of Roy Wright, a boy of 14, not being able to agree whether he should be executed or receive a life sentence.

The charge, rape, is a serious one, but the defendants were held at a point away from home where they could not adequately communicate with relatives or friends, and were not adequately represented by counsel in the trial court; hence it is doubtful if there was anything more than technical guilt, if there was that. Execution, under the circumstances, would be an outrage.

In the Alabama supreme court the defendants were more adequately represented, and the attorneys raised the objections that the defendants had not been allowed sufficient time to prepare their case in the lower court; that they lacked opportunity to retain counsel; that they were inadequately represented by counsel; that the circumstances surrounding the trial, especially the presence of the militia, the crowds surrounding the court and jail, stories carried by the press, and the applause at the close of the first one of the trials, were prejudicial to the defendants; that the indictment was indefinite; that the defendants should have been tried together (five were tried together, two others together, and one separately); that the jury was not properly selected, as a special venire was not accorded for each trial; that Negroes were excluded from the jury; that white jurors were not questioned on the subject of race prejudice.

It is quite apparent that the defendants did not have a fair trial. Chief Justice Anderson dissented from the decision of the state supreme court. His dissenting opinion, a reasoned an unimpassioned documet, shows conclusively that a fair trial was not had.

Scottsboro Mother Greeted in France

Daily Worker

Speakers at Giant Reception Attended by 200 Delegates of Paris Workers Organizations and Thousands of Workers: Reading left to Right: Marcel Cachin, editor of ‘L'Humanite," French Communist Paper; Jean Richetta, Secretary of the Federation of Textile Workers and leader of the Confederation General du Travail Unitaire, Mrs. Ada Wright, mother of Andy and Roy, two of the nine Scottsboro boys, J. Louis Engdahl, General Secretary International Labor Defense of the United States.

6-22-32
D. W.

PARIS WORKERS BACK WORLD-WIDE FIGHT FOR SCOTTSBORO 9

International Labor Defense Demands the Release On Bail of Two Lads Held Without Conviction

By J. LOUIS ENGDAHL

PARIS, France, (By Mail).—"We give our pledge that every organization at every meeting held will raise the Scottsboro issue until these Negro boys of the working-class are freed."

This was the declaration of Marcel Cachin, veteran editor of the l'Humanite, central organ of the Communist Party in France, with its daily circulation of 200,000 copies and for years leader of the Communist group in the French Chamber of Deputies.

This pledge was approved by the 200 delegates of the working-class organizations of the Paris District at the reception tendered to the Scottsboro Negro mother, Mrs. Ada Wright, at the headquarters of the Secours Rouge International (International Labor Defense) of France.

Marcel Cachin spoke in reply to the speech of Mrs. Wright in which she told of the judicial lynching of the Negro boys and appealed for growing support of the developing international campaign.

* * *

Demand Wright and Williams Be Released on Bail

NEW YORK.—The International Labor Defense is pushing the fight to force the Alabama lynch courts to release on bail Roy Wright and Eugene Williams, the two 14-year old Scottsboro boys.

These two boys have no conviction against them—even in the Alabama courts. Roy Wright was not convicted in the original mock trial at Scottsboro which sentenced eight of the nine innocent boys to burn in the electric chair. There was a jury disagreement inRoy's case, one or two of the jury proposing life imprisonment, while the rest held out for the death sentence.

Although the jury disagreement occurred on April 9, 1931, Roy has been held ever since in the county jail at Birmingham, Ala.

Eugene Williams, the other 14-year old boy, was originally sentenced to death in the lower court at Scottsboro. The Alabama Supreme Court, while upholding the lynch verdicts against 7 of the boys, was forced to order a new trial for Eugene when it was conclusively shown by the I. L. D attorneys that Eugene was only 13 years old at the time he was sentenced to death. Although the death sentence has been reversed, Eugene is still kept in the death cell at Kilby Prison, Montgomery, and, along with the seven other boys, subjected to the most horrible torture.

ced to witness the execution of
r Negro workers and told by the
ers that it will be "your turn next."

League of Nations May Hear Scottsboro Case

New York 6-11-32

NEW YORK— The disarmament conference of the League of Nations may hear the history of the Scottsboro case when the proletariat of Geneva, with a committee of twenty, presents the issue to them for consideration.

SUPREME COURT WILL REVIEW ALABAMA CASE

Scottsboro Youths to Know Fate Nov. 10

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 3.—Before recessing for the summer, the United States supreme court last Tuesday granted petitions for writs of certiorari in the so-called Scottsboro case, directing the supreme court of the state of Alabama to certify and send to it the record of the trial and conviction of seven youths on a charge of raping two white women.

Chicago Defender 6/11/32

Convict Seven Youths

The seven youths—Ozie Powell, Willie Roberson, Andy Wright, Olen Montgomery, Haywood Patterson, Charles Weems and Clarence Norris—ignorant and illiterate, are in the state prison at Montgomery, Ala., where they were to be hanged on June 24. The action of the supreme court stays their execution until it has had an opportunity to review their convictions.

The applications for writs of certiorari were based on the ground that their conviction and sentence to death for the crime of rape constituted in the circumstances of the case a deprivation of liberty and lige without due process of law and a denial of the equal protection of the laws guaranteed them by the 14th amendment to the federal Constitution and a violation of their rights under this amendment.

The petitions for review were filed by Walter H. Pollak, their attorney.

At the time of their trial and conviction the defendants were of immature years. All of them are ignorant or illiterate. All were nonresidents of the county in which they were tried and of the state of Alabama.

Confined in Prison

They were confined in prison and under military guard from the day of the occurrence which caused their prosecution until after their trial, two weeks later. They were without opportunity to communicate with their parents or with friends or relatives. They were without opportunity to employ counsel and, in fact, had none.

The record shows that on the day all cases were set for trial a lawyer in the courtroom, who had not prepared the cases in any way. professed a willingness to aid in their defense. The court, without consultation with the defendants, accepted the offer and made no appointment of his own.

The petitions for certiorari assert that all of the defendants were tried on that day, or within two days thereafter, and their cases were not and could not be prepared and were not and could not be adequately presented.

The supreme court was informed that sensational and damaging articles appeared in the local press, which both assumed and asserted the guilt of the defendants. Threatening crowds gathered the day of the arrests and were present in the immediate vicinity of the court throughout the trials.

Deny Scottsboro Mother Right to Enter Belgium

Call

Kansas City

LONDON, — An Exchange Telegraph agency dispatch from Brussels on June 10 said the Belgian government had refused permission to Ada Wright of Chattanooga, Tenn., mother of two of seven Negroes under sentence of death in Alabama, to enter the country.

Mrs. Wright has just completed a tour of seven cities in Germany, where a committee "to save the Scottsboro, Ala., victims" was formed. The committee has petitioned President Hoover for a reprieve for the Negroes, who were convicted of an alleged attack, and whose appeal is now before the United States Supreme court.

While in Germany Mrs. Wright was sponsored by the Communist party, which called a number of public protest meetings. The police, scenting trouble, forbade the meetings.

The Scottsboro Mother in Austria

Daily Worker

By J. LOUIS ENGDAHL (Berlin)

New York

THE Nazi (Hitlerite) press (Kampruf, Vienna) has savagely declared that it would be a good thing if the Scottsboro Negro boys were burned alive in the electric chair. It argued that they were members of an inferior race which would thus be lessened in its numbers, making for the strengthening of Nordic superiority and purity.

But the toiling masses thought differently. After having demonstrated their solidarty with the oppressed Negro masses in the United States on the Scottsboro issue, both on International May Day, May First, and on Scottsboro Day, May 7th, they poured out in unexpected numbers to greet the Scottsboro Negro mother, Mrs. Ada Wright, in Vienna. Not only workers, however, but intellectuals and other middle class elements joined the thousands of whom 234 joined the International Red Aid.

6-13-32

Trying to Mislead Masses

Unlike Germany, where the greater part of the bourgeois and social-democratic press sought to ignore the message of struggle that the Scottsboro mother had brought to Europe, the Viennese press, from Nazi to Communist, carried a tremendous broadside of publicity. This, with the exception of the Hitlerite organs, was mostly favorable, tribute to the tremendous mass appeal of the Scottsboro issue. The social-fascist (Socialist Party) press, the mouthpiece of the Austrian left Socialist Party leaders, who are peculiarly adept in the use of socal-demagogy, sought to exploit the Scottsboro issue to the utmost, just as they had brazenly raised the slogan of "Defend the Soviet Unon!" on May Day.

Socalists Honor Negro Slave Owners

In the great mass meetings, however, attended by great numbers of socialist workers, the speakers placed the question, "But what does the Socialist Party actually do to help free the Scottsboro boys" and the thundering answer came back, especially from the Socalist Party workers, "Nothing"

In fact, on the very of Mrs. Wright's visit to Vienna, the Socialist Party was putting the finishing touches on the program for the opening of one of its municipal apartment houses to be christened "The George Washington,' in memory of the first Amercan president, who was a Negro slave-owner. Thus the Socialist Party leaders, in the days when Austria is going hat in hand to French and British imperialisms for financial assistance to bulwark its poverty-stricken shilling, also beg at the door of Wall Street imperialism for American favors, inviting the American ambassador and his whole diplomatic staff with the tourist colony to lead in the dedication ceremonies.

The Austrian International Red Aid secretary had been arrested at the May Seventh demonstration, the charge beng put forward that she had mentioned that in some countries the workers had stoned the windows of Amercan embassies. Mrs. Wright received greater police attention in "Socialist" Vienna than in any city yet visited. Plainclothes police at the station followed her in a taxi to the hotel where she was taken. The same police sat at a nearby table as she lunched in the hotel's dining room. They were at the demonstration in the evening and followed her to the cafe where she was taken later by some of Vienna's workers. Then they again followed her to the hotel. The next day they called for inspection of passports and detailed questioning. They were without doubt in an excellent position to give full information to the nervous U. S. ambassador who has already been forced to listen to the demands of several delegations of Austria's workers. Vienna's demonstration selected another such delegation.

Writers Support Campaign

In Vienna Mrs. Wright conferred with Ernest Toller, world-famous author and playwright Dr. Magnus Hirschfeld, Germnay's famous physician and others on the development of the work of the Committee for the Liberation of the Scottsboro Negro boys, which is carrying on a tremendous activity in Austria as well as in Czecho-Slovakia and Germany. They both pledged themselves to contnue their activities with greater energy. Toller had just come from Budapest where he had attended a Writers' Congress. Young Communists had just carried through a Scottsboro demonstration before the U. S. embassy and were being hounded by the police. Toller created a furore in the congress by declaring that instead of persecuting the young Communists, a protest should be launched against the proposed Scottsboro murder. Dr Hirschfeld declared he would himself personally visit the Amercan ambassador in Vienna and demand the release of the Scottsboro boys.

Mrs. Ada Wright

On the day Mrs. Wright came to Vienna, the newly elected municipal council went into session with 15 National Socialist (Hitlerite Fascist) members who stormed through a six-hour session calling the 66 Socialist Party member Jews and demanding that right of citizenship for Jews and aliens be taken away. The reply of the Socialists to the Fascists was that Fascists were descendants of Jews and the offspring of various nationalities. No touching of vital working-class problems. Race and national purity has, of course, become a myth in Vienna, that stood at the crossroads of Europe for 2,000 years. Today, however, its working class, with 500,000 jobless out of a population of 6,000,000 is being united also on the Scottsboro issue of class and national oppression from across the far Atlant-

Alabama

3714

Lynchings - 1932

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Negroes' Death Stay Automatic

Advertiser

6-8-32

Action Of U. S. Supreme Court Is Said To Have Halted Execution Order

Montgomery.

When the order of the U. S. Supreme Court granting certiorari in the cases of the seven negroes condemned to death for criminally assaulting two white girls near Scottsboro, in March, 1931, was formally certified to the Supreme Court of Alabama, that action had, under the law, the effect of automatically suspending execution of the negroes until after the U. S. Supreme Court has disposed of the cases.

This was learned yesterday, from an authoritative source.

In granting the certiorari petitioned for by defense counsel, the nation's highest tribunal set Oct. 10, as the date for the hearing of oral arguments by representatives of both the State and the defendants.

Inasmuch as the U. S. Supreme Court did not issue an official execution suspension order and in view of the fact, it is understood, that the Alabama Supreme Court is under no obligation now to do so since the stay was automatically provided for when the former court issued its order granting certiorari, it is now incumbent upon either Gov. Miller or Atty. Gen. Thomas E. Knight to notify Warden George P. Walls of Kilby Prison of the suspension of execution of the death sentences.

Execution of the negroes is set for June 24, and it will be necessary to issue such direction at an early date for if, by any chance the sentences should be carried out in view of the order of the Supreme Court of the United States, the warden, it appears, would face charges of the greatest gravity.

Such a situation however, is clearly outside the bounds of the remotest possibility and it only remains for the proper direction to be issued and delivered. The warden's orders as they now stand, of course, are for execution of the condemned men on the date and in the manner decreed.

Should the Supreme Court of the United States, in its final decision in the cases, affirm the judgment of the Supreme Court of Alabama, it may be necessary for a new date for execution to be fixed by the original trial court, it was learned. Should they be reversed, new trials would be in order.

THE SCOTTSBORO PRISONERS AND MISLEADING AGITATORS

Those of us who could not understand the viewpoint of sincere but misled groups far distant from these Alabama hills and valleys, who insist upon protesting the rights of a State to weigh the guilt or innocence of the Scottsboro negroes, need wonder no longer.

Advertiser

John Temple Graves, of The Birmingham Age-Herald, has set forth the answer. Mr. Graves quotes in part a letter written by "The Committee of Books for Political Prisoners" to The Saturday Review of Literature in which a request was made for reading matter for the "Scottsboro boys and other political prisoners."

6-8-32

"There are over 200 political prisoners in the jails of this country under indictment or sentence for their activities and affiliations with the labor movement. These terms range from one year to life. Tom Mooney and Warren Billings, the six Centralia men, the Scottsboro boys and the Harlan, Ky., miners are listed among them," Mr. Graves quotes the letter, which was concluded with requests for "books of a serious nature on politics, economics and philosophy as well as books for entertainment."

Montgomery, Ala.

Broad-visioned and analytical, Mr. Graves says:

> Without prejudice to the guilt or innocence of "the Scottsboro boys" or to the fairness or unfairness of their trial, we can imagine that no one would be more mystified than they themselves at learning (1) that they are "political" prisoners, (2) that their sentences are for "activities and affiliations with the labor movement," (3) that Mr. Mooney and Mr. Billings are their fraternity mates, (4) that they are hungry for "books of a serious nature on politics, economies and philosophy," or (5) that anybody thinks they would know what to do with any book at all.

Evidence of charlatanry has been shown more than once by professional liberals in the Scottsboro case. But in no other instance, it seems, have their claims been so ridiculously faked. Under the circumstance it might be easy to overlook the actions of herded protestors in Paris and Berlin and Australia. They are guilty only of being too ready to hear pitiful tales. They are demonstrative because they are protesting real or imaginary burdens resting on their own shoulders. And it gives them a certain amount of "sympathetic satisfaction" to feel that there are others, too, who are being crushed under ruthless heels of oppressive powers. It plays upon a martyr complex and gives birth to the game of "Martyr me and I'll martyr you."

The Merlins of pseudo-liberalism have waved their wands of falsity before the eyes of some sensible people in the Scottsboro case with success. Because they made statements which, despite unsoundness could not be disproved to those not "on the grounds."

It is no wonder then that they are able to mislead persons who do not know nor understand America, its people, white or black, or its laws.

We believe as does Mr. Graves, that it is doubtful whether "the Scottsboro boys hunger for books of a serious nature" or if "anybody thinks they would know what to do with any books at all."

It is doubtful if even one of the prisoners could pronounce "economics" or if any of them could tell the meaning of the word "philosophy."

Their interest in politics is doubtlessly limited and most of them could perhaps discuss government no more than to name the two major political parties and the Governor of the State.

But every one of them before his arrest knew of the law against the crime for which they were convicted. And they knew the gravity of that law, just as they knew to eat when they were hungry and to sleep when weary.

Once the mountebanks cried out against the State's right to try the prisoners "because of the ignorance and poverty of the boys." Now for the benefit of the long-haired pen weilders who though totally unacquainted with real labor, squall loudly at the fate of "misunderstood workers," the professional agitators are attempting to place the Scottsboro prisoners in the role of liberty-saving intellectuals.

ALABAMA WILL STAY NEGROES' EXECUTION

MONTGOMERY, Ala., June 6.—(AP)—The Alabama supreme court announced today that it would grant a stay of execution for the seven negroes condemned to die June 24 for assaults on two young white women near Scottsboro, Ala., within the next few days.

6-7-32

The announcement was made following receipt of an order from the United States supreme court stating that a writ of certiorari had been granted in connection with the appeal of the negroes and arguments set for October 10.

NAT'L COMMITTEE HAILS VICTORY IN SCOTTSBORO CASE

Daily Worker

6-4-32

New York, N.Y.

Calls for Greater Efforts in Fight to Free Boys

NEW YORK.—A statement, which characterizes the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States on the Scottsboro appeal as "a vindication of the defense policy of the International Labor Defense and of the combined legal and mass protest which it has utilized to save these boys' lives," was issued today by Melvin P. Levy of the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners.

The National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners includes among its members such writers and artists as Theodore Dreiser, John Dos Passos, Lincoln Steffens, Sherwood Anderson, Langston Hughes, and William Zorach.

"Only an aroused public opinion," the statement continues, "could have been or can be effective in a case like this."

The statement follows in part:

"The National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners has supported the International Labor Defense since the beginning of the case. More than once we have had occasion to note that organizations and individuals attacking the International Labor Defense were in reality attacking the boys.

"We feel a certain pride in our consistent support of the tactics of the International Labor Defense and pledge ourselves to continue it.

I. L. D. HAILS VICTORY

Guardian

SAYS SCOTTSBORO HEARING RESULT OF WORLD PROTEST—SENDS OUT WARNING

New York, N. Y., June 1, 1932.—The decision of the United States Supreme Court in granting a review of the world famed Scottsboro Case, in which seven young Colored boys were doomed to death on June 24, is hailed as a victory by the International Labor Defense, according to Carl Hacker, acting general secretary of the International Labor Defense.

Since the conviction of the boys on April 6, 1931, the International Labor Defense has been carrying on a mass movement of protest against the conviction and sentence to death of these boys.

6-4-32

Protests from All Over World

As a result of the tremendous campaign carried on by the International Labor Defense, protests have poured in to the office of the Governor of Alabama, from all corners of the earth. From every country, even as far south as the southernmost diamond mines of Africa, have come protests from the workers there, demanding the release of the Scottsboro boys.

Boston, Mass.

Warns Against Trickery

The International Labor Defense warns that this stay of execution, and the granting of review by the United States Supreme Court is done primarily for the purpose of dampening the militant spirit that has been shown by the workers both black and white thruout the world up to now.

We call upon all organizations to now take up the fight more energetically, in a demand for the complete and unconditional release of the nine Scottsboro boys.

We point out again that it has been the militant struggle of the workers thruout the world that prevented the state of Alabama from carrying out the legal lynch murder of the nine Scottsboro boys.

Seven Negroes Still Await Stay Of Death Time

Advertiser

6-7-32

Whether the Supreme Court of the United States or the Supreme Court of Alabama will issue the necessary order staying execution of the death sentences of the seven negroes convicted at Scottsboro more than a year ago of assaulting two white girls, until the nation's highest tribunal has finally passed on the cases of the condemned, appeared yesterday to be uncertain. It was not doubted, however, that such an order will issue from one of the two sources.

During the forenoon, Gen. R. F. Ligon, clerk of the Alabama Supreme Court, received from Washington order of the U. S. Supreme Court giving official notice that the certiorari petitioned for by defense counsel has been granted and that the cases had been set down for hearing at the national capital on Oct. 10. Nothing in the nature of a stay of execution was contained in the order, however.

Montgomery Adv

Within the next few days, it was learned, the Alabama Supreme Court will take up in consultation the matter of a stay in the carrying out of the death sentences imposed on the seven defendants, which is now set for June 24. Following the consultation it is expected that the staying order will be issued by the Alabama Supreme Court in view of the notice contained in the order received from the Supreme Court of the United States.

Either court, it is understood, may issue the execution stay.

Belgium Closes Doors On Ada Wright, Mothe Of Scottsboro Negroe

Advertiser

6-11-32

Montgomery Adv

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM, June 10.—(AP)—Ada Wright, mother of two negroes under a death sentence in Scottsboro, Ala., assault cases, today was denied permission to remain in Belgium.

Authorities met the woman at the railway station as she alighted from a Paris train and put her on another train for the French capital.

Their decision was based on the premise that public criticism of a sentence passed by the courts of another country could not be permitted in Belgium.

The Wright woman has lectured recently in Germany, Switzerland Austria and Czechoslovakia in the interests of seven negroes including her sons, who were given the extreme penalty for attacks on white girls.

Their case is now before the U. S. Supreme Court.

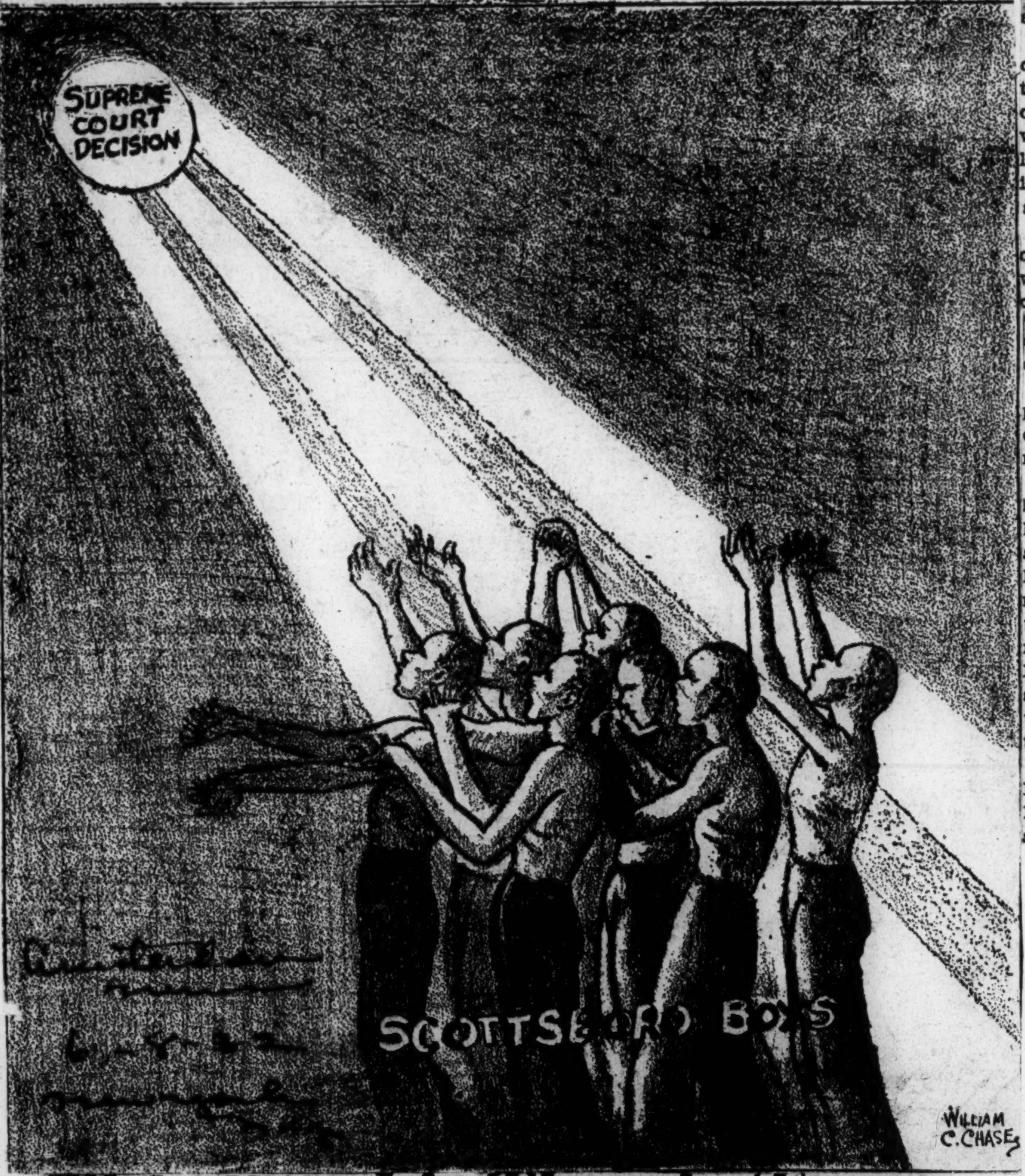
DEATH SENTENCES SUSPENDED

6-10-32

MONTGOMERY, Ala., June 9 (AP) The Alabama supreme court today suspended the death sentences of the seven Scottsboro Negroes scheduled to die June 24 for attacking two white girls near Paint Rock, Ala., in March, 1931, pending action of the United States supreme court on the appeal of the Negroes.

A Ray of Hope

By CHAS



6-8-32

This Week's Timely Topic

By THE EDITOR

THE UPRAISED HANDS of the seven condemned Scottsboro boys, whose alleged trial and conviction is to be reviewed by the United States Supreme Court, reach out to you. Ten thousand dollars is needed at once to defend them—these victims of race prejudice and oppression—before the highest court in the land, and the boys themselves have no way of raising that amount of money. You have! Why, an average of twenty-five cents from each person who buys a copy of this paper would net over eight thousand dollars of the required amount.

We have refrained from writing an editorial on the decision last week of the Supreme Court to look into the planned "legal lynching" of these defendants, because to do so would be a waste of space at a time when only a temporary victory has been won. The lives of these seven lads, and the two others in prison in connection with the same case, are still in jeopardy and neither editorializing nor sympathy will save them.

Nor is this a time to discuss the merits or demerits of the International Labor Defense, whose attorneys were granted permission to argue the case before the court in October, or the N. A. A. C. P., whose legal department won the case which furnished the basis on which the present writ of certiorari was granted, or Communism. All these can wait.

It costs money to retain attorneys, print briefs and pay incidental expenses in a case like the Scottsboro case, and the raising of money is our concern right now and it should be yours also.

If you believe that these unfortunate, handicapped boys should have a hearing in court—and they have had none so far—now is the time to contribute something toward their adequate defense. We believe all of them are innocent, but even if they are not innocent, the State of Alabama has not proven them guilty. It will do little good to prove them innocent after they are dead and gone. As Langston Hughes and Sherwood Anderson asserted in a recent appeal, "these boys will surely die, if humane men and women, like yourself, throughout the world do not set them free."

Send your contribution to the NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE DEFENSE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS, Room 337, St. Dennis Building, Eleventh street and Broadway, New York City.

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment for Rape

Alabama

Lives of 7 Negro Boys Hanging On U. S. Supreme Court Decision

Famous Scottsboro Case Argued on Appeal Tomorrow—Prisoner Accused of Attacking Two White Girls—Labor and Communists Aid Defense—Sentenced in South

Special to The Eagle

Birmingham, Ala., May 21—In Wasnington on Monday the United States Supreme Court will hear argument on the so-called Scottsboro case, which originated in a sparsely settled county of northeast Alabama and has developed into an international cause celebre, with something of the implications in it of the Tom Mooney case in California and of Sacco and Vanzetti in Massachusetts.

It is a case of seven Negro boys convicted of the crime of assaulting two white girls, for which the penalty in Alabama is death. They were tried—they and two others—by a jury of their peers, if a jury of white men in a Southern State can be legitimately called peers of Negro defendants. Eight of them were convicted after a swift and rather one-sided trial, and there was a disagrement in the case of the ninth, a boy of 14, as to whom the presiding judge, instructed that life imprisonment was the maximum penalty, but some of the jurors insisted on death.

The white South was rather inclined to take pride in this case—pride in the fact that the law was adhered to and the nine were tried rather than lynched on the spot. There are Southerners in plentiful numbers who, even now, will tell you without undue squeamishness that lynching would have been the best way of dealing with the problem—all the "trouble" that has come since would have been avoided.

Labor Takes a Hand

That trouble consisted of the appearance of "outsiders" to take a hand in the proceedings—and every white Southerner knows that "we" white folks of the South know best how to deal with the Negro. The "outsiders" consisted, in particular, of the International Labor Defense, which took the cause of the convicted Negroes on the theory presumably, that here were laborers oppressed by capitalism. Although the issue is actually not between capitalist and laborer but between the dominant white man and the Negro whom, ever since the slavery aid carpetbag days, he has feared.

Sentenced to Die July 26

There was an appeal to the State Supreme Court, and the conviction of the defendants was upheld. In the case of the eighth—again a boy of 14—the court reversed the jury's verdict on the ground that he should be tried in juvenile court. The remaining seven have been sentenced to die—unless the United States Supreme Court rules otherwise—on July 26.

International Labor Defense, a Yankee organization with headquarters in N'Yawk, that has made the appeal to that final tribunal. Technically, the argument will be on a writ of error, with the plea that trial by jury, guaranteed in the Bill of Right, has been defeated when only white men were permitted to sit i nthe juries that tried these Negroes. Should the court uphold that plea, the effect would be far-reaching on future trials of Negroes in the South. Otherwise—it will be the end of the road for the Scottsboro seven.

Radicals Take Up Fight

Meanwhile labor and more or less radical organizations have taken up the cause of the obscure seven Negro boys—even their names rarely appear in dispatches sent out from Scottsboro. There have been Communist and radical "demonstrations" on their behalf in this country and abroad—and the seven are of course neither Communists nor radicals. They are merely confused Negro boys who, without quite knowing how it happened—and whether they are guilty of the particular offense charged against them or not—find themselves face to face with death.

If they are innocent and the casual and cut-and-dried trial they got leaves that as a possibility, they are victims of the Southerners white-superiority complex, of their preoccupation with the necessity of defending "white womanhood" gainst the dark-skinned folks among whom they live.

How Negroes Were Arrested

When Sheriff M. L. Wann of Jackson County was told in March of last year to stop a freight train and arrest some Negroes who had thrown a number of white hobo boys off a train he had no suspicion that an international case was in the making. Even when nine of the Negroes had been arrested and an additional charge was placed against them of assaulting two white girls, Jackson County failed to sense the spotlight that would later be thrust upon it.

To Sheriff Wann and to Scottsboro the case was simply an aggravated one of criminal assault by a Negro upon a white female. No one foresaw that the case would be taken up as a battleflag by labor sympathizers, Communists and others, that there would be distortions of facts, threats, violent disagreements.

Two Girls in Hobo Group

There are some undisputed facts in the case. The authentic history begins with the afternoon of Wednesday, March 25, 1931. On that date two white girls, Victoria Price and Ruby Bates; about six white boys and at least 12 Negroes were hoboes on a freight train running west from Chattanooga, Tenn. through Jackson County, Ala. The white girls were dressed in boys clothes.

Near Stevenson, in the eastern part of the county, the white and Negro boys got into a fight and all but one of the white boys were thrown from the train. They reported the incident to the Sheriff at Scottsboro. By that time the train had passed Scottsboro without stopping. Sheriff Wann informed a depuy a Pain Rock, near he wesern end of he couny and disan some 60 miles from Stevenson.

Charged Attack by 12 Negroes

The deputy at Paint Rock gathered a posse and when the train stopped, arrested nine Negroes. Others escaped from the train. How many escaped from the train is disputed. The two white girls said they were attacked by 12 Negroes. Two officials of the train at a later hearing on the case said the train usually had more hoboes than that; sometimes as high as 30 or 40. Due to industrial conditions, it was said, hoboes looking for work were seldom disturbed.

After the nine Negroes weer arrested the two girls told of being attacked, each by six Negroes. The prisoners, the girls and the white boy were taken to Scottsboro, the county seat. The girls were examined by physicians, who substantiated the assault but found no evidence of violence except one bruise on one girl.

Lynching Prevented

A crowd quickly gathered around the old brick jail in Scottsboro where the Negroes were taken. Sheriff Wann called all his deputies into the jail and told them to shoot to kill in any attempt at lynching.

Maj. J. D. Snodgrass of Scottsboro, who has held the office 41 years; his son, John M. Snodgrass, State legislator; J. K. Thompson, county solicitor, and others addressed the crowd, assuring a speedy trial for the Negroes. Nevertheless, Sheriff Wann feared for his prisoners, and about 9 P.M. planned to remove them. But he found all lights in his automobile cut. Thereupon he telephoned for militia, which arrived about midnight. By that time, however, the crowd had thinned considerably and there was no trouble.

Quick Trial Held

Steps were taken for an immediate trial. A special session of the grand jury was called and the Negroes indicted. They were formally arraigned and their cases set for trial April 6, or 12 days after the offense and about as soon as legal procedure would permit.

The trials were held with the militia in attendance. All trials were short and some of the cases were grouped. The girls positively identified the Negroes.

Other testimony introduced by the prosecution was confined to statements by officers making the arrest and by the physicians. The white youth in the case, who the girls said witnessed the whole affair, was never called in direct testimony and appeared only briefly in rebutta in one case. His testimony then did not touch on the attack itself.

Negroes Denied Crime

No witnesses were called by the defense except the Negroes. Each of the nine Negroes denied committing the crime. Some testified they knew nothing about it.

Trial of the nine Negroes was completed in less than three days time. Eight were given the death sentence. The ninth, Roy Wright said he was only 14 years old and looks about that age. In his case after the others had all been convicted, State and defense attorneys reached an agreement to let him off with life sentence in view of his youth. But the jury which was empanneled to pass the sentence, as required by Alabama law in capital cases, failed to agree. Eleven of thejury, it was said, stood out for the death penalty, although they had been informed the State was asking only for a life sentence.

Girls Character Attacked

These are some of the undisputed facts in the case and the trial. Some points are not so clear. Attempts have been made to inject the character of the girls into the matter. At a hearing on an application for a new trial, affidavits were introduced from Chattanooga charging the two girls with immoral relations with both white and blacks. There were counter affidavits tending to show that the first affidavits were paid for and insincere.

Known facts on this point are that Virginia Price had been married twice, although only 20 years old, and was then living apart from her second husband. She had appeared in police courts in Huntsville, Ala., her home, on charges of fighting but never for any charge imputing immorality. The other girl was 17 years old and there was nothing on record against her character.

Girls Work in Cotton Mills

Both girls were cotton mill workers, generally regarded in the South as among the lowest class of white city dwellers.

Another uncertain point is the ages of the Negroes. At the trial they gave ages ranging from 14 up to 20. Some look older. The Alabama Supreme Court, to which the eight convictions were appealed, reversed one, that of Eugene Williams, on the grounds that he should be tried in the juvenile court. Most of the Negroes are obviously not far either way from 21 years of age.

The mater of ages is important in view of the defense contention that the Negroes were not given opportunity to offer testimony at their trials regarding their ages.

And that brings in the crux of the whole mater—was full opportunity given the Negroes for a fair and impartial trial? A fair trial, according to judicial decisions, calls for an atmosphere which permits of justice, adequate counsel and opportunity to get together in reasonable time the defense testimony. Did the Negroes get these things?

Tradition in the South

In the first place, the offense is one which the South traditionally regards as the most heinous. It was this tradition which the character in the Irvin Cobb story had in mind when he said that a certain Negro hanged and burned at the stake "got off awful light." The South does not look with any sort of calmness upon a desecration of its white women. No matter what their social scale. The assertion has been repeatedly heard in Scottsboro and elsewhere in Alabama that had the crowd which got the Negroes off the train at Paint Rock really known the charge, the Negroes would have been shot before they got a chance to climb down from the train.

But lynching was averted that night and the crowd which thronged the little city of 2,000 inhabitants for the trial was never unruly.

Newspaper Stories as Evidence

Did anything happen between the arrest and the trial, however, to render a fair trial at Scottsboro unlikely? Evidence introduced at the application for a new trial included copies of newspapers published or circulating in the country. The Jackson County Sentinel and the Progressive Era, both published at Scottsboro and circulating througout the county, during this period before the trial referred to the accused as "black brutes," "black fiends" and "as hard-looking a lot as ever were seen here." The newspaper accounts said some of the Negroes had confessed, that the girls were in a "terrible condition after their unspeakable experience" and that some o fthe Negroes were known in Chattanooga as "the worst young Negroes in Chattanooga," all statements which later were proved unfounded. On the other hand, the newspapers counseled judicial justice and commended officers for preventing a lynching.

Militia on Guard at Trial

The trial itself was held in a crowded courthouse, where 107 militiamen stood on guard with machine guns and tear bombs evident. Theodore Dreiser and other liberals have made charges of the trials taking place while bands played and cheers were given for the guilty verdicts. The sworn to facts in tthe case are:

In the evening of the second day of thetrials, but after court had adjourned, the military unit present, with the consent of the judge and prosecutor, staged a formal military guard mount. In this event, a band from a cotton mill of Scottsboro was procured to play two military marches and the national anthem.

On the third and last day of the trials, John B. Benson, a dealer in Scottsboro of automobiles, gave a parade through the streets of the city in which he used a phonograph with an amplifier. He said arrangements for this parade had been made weeks in advance and that its coming on the last day of the trial was entirely a coincidence.

Regarding cheers, the facts seem to be: When the verdict in the first case was brought in, the second trial was on. After the verdict was read there were a few cheers in the courtroom and more cheers outside. The jury for the second case was in an adjoining room, where it could hear the cheers. Whereupon Judge A. E. Hawkins, presiding, declared he would tolerate no more cheering in the courtroom and that any one applauding any verdict in any way while within the courtroom would be arrested for contempt of court. Thereafter there was no more cheering in the courtroom, although it continued outside as each verdict was passed from the courtroom to the milling crowd outside.

Only men above 21 were admitted to the trials. All those getting in were searched. Two pistols were found, but both were on officers of the law from adjoining counties.

A number of jurors in the case were questioned at the application for a new trial as to whether they had been influenced in their verdicts by the surrounding circumstances. They, of course, denied it.

One Lawyer for Defense

The matter of counsel is also of concern. At the time of the arraignment of the Negroes Judge Hawkins inquired if they had counsel. They had none. Whereupon he appointed to represent the Negroes "all the available" members of the Scottsboro bar. There are only four lawyers in Scottsboro. One of these is the county attorney, who assisted the circuit court solicitor in the case. Two others were engaged to assist in the prosecution through a fund raised privately in Scottsboro and Huntsville, county seat of Madison County, which adjoins Jackson and where the girls lived.

This left only one lawyer to defend the Negroes, Milo Moody, who is nearly 70 years old and whose practise is rather limited. Years ago a brother of Mr. Moody's was killed by a Negro. During the period between the arraignment and the trial the Negroes were away from Scottsboro for safe keeping and Mr. Moody did not talk to them.

There was therefore virtually no effort to work up a defense for the nine negroes. At the time of the trial, however, there appeared rather unexpectedly a Chattanooga lawyer, Stephen Roddy, who said he was not prepared to act in the case but had been asked to rush down to Scottsboro by a negro ministers' alliance.

This was the extent of the legal talent in the case until the application for a new trial and change of venue was heard. At that time the International Labor Defense appeared in the case and Joseph Brodsky, of New York, its chief counsel, and George W. Chamlee of Chattanooga, Southern counsel took over defense of the case. Invitations by these to counsel for the Interracial Commission of Alabama to participate in the case have been rejected.

It is the contention of the Labor Defense attorneys that the negroes were not given their just opportunity to build up a case. The arguments as presented in court hearings on the subject point to the fact that the negroes all were away from home, that four lived in Georgia and five in Tennessee, and that the negroes, either through ignorance, fear, intimidation or a failure to appreciate the seriousness of their plight did not try to get in touch with parents or frends.

The facts boil down to this: The negroes were given by the court every consideration called for by law but nevertheless at the time of the trial were friendless, penniless and in a hostile atmosphere.

Following their conviction in April 1931, the cases were carried to the state supreme court by the I. L. D. The Supreme Court, with one of the seven judges dissenting, affirmed the verdicts in seven of the cases and reversed the other. The I. L. D. has announced its intention to appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court on the ground that the verdicts violate the Fourteenth Amendment. They allege that the Alabama practice of keeping negroes off the jury is unconstitutional.

Scottsboro is essentially an agricultural community. It has two small cotton mills, a cotton gin, a lumber mill, ice plant and a few stores to give it a "capitalist" group. Among the 175 men summonsed to serve as jurors in the trials, only 12 were in the employer class. The rest were farmers, artisans, laborers and the like. There was no class consciousness in the trials at Scottsboro regardless of the amount of racial consciousness that may have existed.

Regarding Alabama opinion of the case one comes first of all to the fact that it is far from unanimous in approving the verdicts. The Birmingham News, largest paper in the State, has questioned the justice of the trials. A few preachers have from their pulpits expressed the opinion that the Negroes did not get justice.

On the other hand, however, mass of sentiment has been all along for execution of the Negroes. The heinousness of the offense for which they stood charged and the average Southerner's deep-rooted conviction that a few Negroes more or less do not matter so long as the purity of white womanhood is protected are reflected in the rather general approval of the outcome of the trials.

This attitude has only been intensified by the activities of Communists. The average Alabamian is resentfhl of the charges that the trial is capitalistic exploitation of the worker class and still more resentful of the character of the efforts made to force clemency or even freedom for the defendants.

It is doubtful now if anywhere in the South a jury—a white jury—could be selected from the average jury panel which would acquit the Negroes. In this connection it must be borne in mind that only chance placed the crime near Scottsboro. None of the defendants lived in the country. Neither did the two girls nor any of the white boys involved. The trial was not influenced by any resentment of relatives of the girls. Removal of the trial to any other county would not improve the factors materially.

In brief it may be said that the better class of Alabamians do not believe the Negro defendants received a fair and impartial trial in all respects. There are exceptions to this view, of course, among that group. The average Southerner doesn't care so much about the fairness of the Negroes trials. He is out to protect his Southern womanhood. He will let the courts do it if he thinks they will. But in a case of doubt—only force will restrain him.

1,600 Germans Protest Execution Of Scottsboro Negroes; Delay Asked

Advertiser

BERLIN, May 30—(AP)—The Scottsboro, Ala., death sentence on seven negro youths for attacking white girls has stirred a certain section of the German public, which has urged President Hoover and Gov. Miller of Alabama, to grant them a reprieve.

5-31-32

A committee "to save the Scottsboro victims" headed by Alfons Goldschmidt, former professor at Cordoba, Argentina and Mexico City, has collected about 1,600 signatures protesting against the negroes' execution. Signatories include Prof. Albert Einstein and Thomas Mann, both Nobel prize winners, and an array of lesser intellectuals of both sexes.

Montgomery, Ala.

The arrival in Germany of Ada Wright, of Chattanooga, Tenn., mother of Andy and Roy Wright, two of the condemned youths, caused Berlin police to place a special guard at the American Embassy and consulate general. The Communist party called a number of public protest meetings, but the police, scenting trouble, forbade them.

The Scottsboro Appeal to the Supreme Court

New Republic

SIR: The execution of seven of the nine Negroes involved in the Scottsboro case has been set for June 24. The issues in this case are no doubt familiar to the readers of this paper.

Having exhausted all remedies in the Alabama courts, the only course open is for them to seek relief from the United States Supreme Court. They are fortunate in having obtained Walter H. Pollak, an attorney peculiarly fitted by his training in constitutional law to act as chief counsel in presenting the case to the Supreme Court.

6-1-32 Vol. 71, No. 913

The defendants are necessarily dependent on the generosity of those who believe in their cause. They have no funds of their own, and the legal proceedings must necessarily be expensive. Lengthy records will now have to be printed for the first time. There will be other necessary legal disbursements and fees to be met, all of which cannot come to less than five thousand ($5,000) dollars. A fund is being started to take care of these legal expenses exclusively.

New York, N.Y.

I have been selected by the International Labor Defense as treasurer of this fund for the legal expenses and urge that you give all you can possibly afford so that these defendants can at least present their case to the United States Supreme Court.

Please make checks payable to Joseph R. Brodsky, treasurer, and address them to me at 100 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

JOSEPH R. BRODSKY.

New York City.

New Republic

6-1-32 Vol. 71, No. 913

New York, N.Y.

ON Tuesday, May 31, the United States Supreme Court is expected to rule on the Scottsboro case and to say whether the seven Negro boys must die on June 24, or have still a chance to live. If the Court decides to accept jurisdiction in the case, it will be tried sometime next autumn, and if the decision is then against the defendants, no further appeal is possible. Considering all the extraordinary circumstances surrounding this case, it would seem that in common decency the state of Alabama should have joined in the plea that the matter be settled in the United States Supreme Court; but on the contrary, the state, through its properly designated legal officers, has done everything possible to prevent the appeal to the Supreme Court and to make sure that these boys will be put to death on June 24. No doubt the people of Alabama would be very much hurt if they were told that their action is a denial of civilization; yet that is precisely what it is.

SCOTTSBORO CASE DECISION IS NEAR

Telegraph

11-7-32.

Macon, Ga.

Police on Guard to Prevent Communist Demonstrations When Supreme Court Acts

WASHINGTON, Nov. 6 (AP)—Once again Monday an extra delegation of police will be stationed at the capitol to forestall demonstrations in connection with the Scottsboro case before the supreme court.

A delegation from the International Labor Defense and other organizations have announced they intend to parade on capitol grounds despite the refusal of police to allow them a permit.

"The authorities of the government crack the whip with a flourish reminiscent of czaristic tyranny," a statement issued by the organization said after capitol officials had reiterated their determination not to allow a demonstration.

Ever since the Scottsboro case, involving death sentences imposed on seven Negroes, reached the supreme court late last year, radical groups have threatened to give the court visible evidence of their feeling that the condemned men should be freed.

Telegraph

11-7-32

Macon, Ga.

Consequently, extra bluecoats have stood about on almost every Monday that the court has been in session since agitation first began. Nothing has happened, however, to interrupt the customary dignity of court proceedings.

The Scottsboro case had its origin in attacks upon two white girls by a group of Negroes on a freight train near Scottsboro, Ala., in 1931.

After seven of the accused were sentenced to die, the Alabama Supreme court refused to disturb the verdict. The highest court of all, however, indicated that the claim the Negroes were refused a fair trial merited consideration by consenting to review the case.

The decision may come Monday since oral argument was finished several weeks ago.

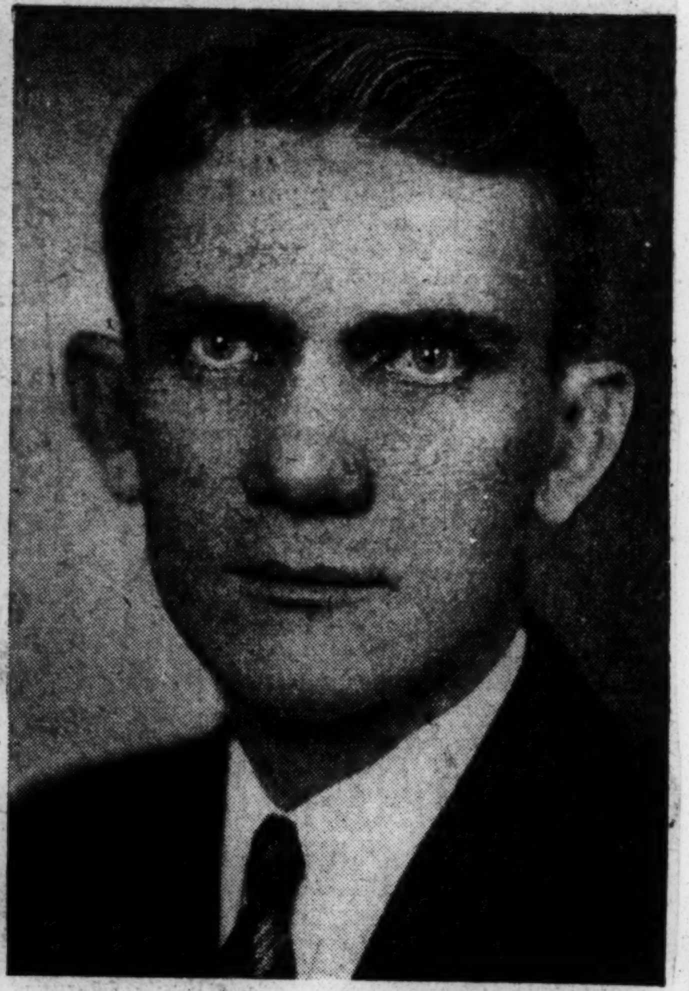
Alabama

Lynchings-1932
Legal Punishment for Rape

3716

CONCERNED WITH THE SCOTTSBORO CASE.

Associated Press Photo.
Thomas E. Knight, Attorney General of Alabama.



Wide World Photo.
Judge A. E. Hawkins, Who Sentenced Negroes.

ALABAMA APPROVES SCOTTSBORO RULING

Times

But People Are Angry at Red Disturbances Which Have Attended Case.

11-13-32

SCOUT 'INTIMIDATION' PLEA

New York

Feeling in State Is Against the Communist Attempts to Arouse Racial Hatred.

N. Y.

ONE-PARTY RULE IN DANGER

Leaders Hope Democrats Will Be Able to Consolidate Gains for Future Strength.

By WILLIAM T. MARTIN.

Editorial Correspondence, THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 10.—It is no mere obvious remark to say that the most significant thing about the balloting in Pennsylvania last Tuesday was the way the people voted the Democratic ticket. That Democratic Presidential electors running on the Democratic ticket alone could even threaten the "ancient Republican fortress of Pennsylvania" was unthinkable. It had not been done in more than seventy years. It is true that in 1912, when the Republican party was split, the State's electoral votes went to a candidate on another ticket, but he was a former Republican President. And even with the Republican party split, not enough Pennsylvanians would vote Democratic to put the State in the Wilson column.

When a Democrat, John M. Hemphill, was almost elected in 1930 he was supported on two tickets—Democratic and Liberal—and this year it had been planned to run Roosevelt and Garner on a Roosevelt ticket as well as the Democratic. But there was a technical oversight—the designees neglected to put the names of Roosevelt and Garner on the Roosevelt ticket. Congressional and Legislative candidates seized the opportunity, however, and some Republican candidates undoubtedly benefited from the Roosevelt name where its owner could not. In fact, it is believed that Governor Roosevelt lost thousands of votes cast on the electorless Roosevelt ticket at mere sight of the name.

So it was a straight-out Democratic and Republican battle and it is now history that the Democrats came within fewer than 200,000 of carrying the State, whereas in the preceding three Presidential contests, the Republican plurality had run from 700,000 to nearly 1,000,000.

Hope for Two-Party State.

Irrespective of what other views may be held of the results, many are hailing eagerly the possibility that Pennsylvania may become fighting ground between the two major parties as it was before the advent of Bryan. Newspapers, regardless of affiliation, have repeatedly deplored the one-party tendency. It is felt generally that Pennsylvania has been discriminated against by national leaders on this account—the Republicans heretofore assured of its vote anyway, and the Democrats taking the position that it was no use to pay attention to the State. This year, however, Governor Roosevelt delivered one of his major addresses in Pittsburgh, and President Hoover "stopped off" in Philadelphia and a number of other Pennsylvania points while on his campaign journeys.

As an industrial State Pennsylvania has been particularly hard hit by the depression, and, in analyzing the vote, due allowance is made for the adverse effect of this upon the party in power. In addition, however, the State Republican organization had been weakened by factional warfare with the Pinchot group and it also lacked the money to put on one of its old-fashioned campaigns.

Aside from all these considerations another factor has now become plain. Governor Roosevelt proved much stronger in his own right than some of the Republican leaders had estimated; he received much more than simply the anti-Hoover vote.

As for Pittsburgh and Alleghen County, the home community of on of the central figures of Republica national administrations since 1921 Andrew W. Mellon, no other part o the country was more effectually hi by the landslide. This is of histori importance, because Pittsburgh, although not claiming to have bee the birthplace of the Republica party, was in 1856 the scene of it preliminary national organization providing for the delegate conventio in Philadelphia that nominated John C. Fremont and William L. Dayton for President and Vice President Lincoln gave this county the name o "the State of Allegheny" on accoun of the great vote it gave him, and barring its going Progressive in 1912 it has been Republi[illegible] ever since However, Mr. Hoove[illegible]at Governo Smith by fewer than [illegible],000 in Pittsburgh four years ago and carried the county by fewer than 55,000.

Democrats in Congress.

Now a Democratic Presidentia ticket sweeps both Pittsburgh an the county, its plurality at this tim indicated as around 37,000. Three o the five Republican Congressme have fallen before Democrats, an the county will have a Democrati representation for the first time i many years. Returns indicate tha a substantial number of the Congressional delegation from Pennsylvani will now be Democratic, compare with only three at present. Th Democratic representation in th Legislature also will take on impressive proportions.

Much interest now turns to th Democratic leaders to see to wha extent they can consolidate the victory toward providing another stron party for the State. It is accepte as a matter of course that forme National Committeeman Joseph F Guffey will be recognized by the ne administration on account of hi original Roosevelt leadership, bu there are several prominent Democratic figures in the State, includin John M. Hemphill, Vance C. McCormick, National Democratic Chairman in 1916, when President Wilso was re-elected; A. Mitchell Palme former Attorney General, and other

There also is interest in how th increased Democratic delegation i the Legislature may get along wit the Pinchot Republican member the natural expectation being tha they may cooperate to a considerabl

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court to give them reasonable time and opportunity to secure counsel was a clear denial of due process.

"The duty of the trial court to appoint counsel under such circumstances is clear, as it is clear under circumstances such as are disclosed by the record here, and its power to do so, even in the absence of a statute, cannot be questioned.

"The judgments must be reversed and the causes remanded for further proceedings not inconsistent with this opinion."

Butler Holds Trial Was Fair.

On the other hand, Justices Butler and McReynolds, in the dissenting opinion written by the former, insisted that a fair trial had been given to the Negroes and that they were represented by "an able member of the local bar of long and successful experience in the trial of criminal as well as civil cases."

The two justices sharply criticized the majority of their colleagues, saying Justice Sutherland and those agreeing with him had taken a position "extending Federal authority into a field hitherto occupied exclusively" by the States.

"If correct, the ruling that the failure of the trial court to give petitioners time and opportunity to secure counsel was denial of due process is enough, and with this the opinion should end," Justices Butler and McReynolds said on this point, "but the court goes on to declare that 'the failure of the trial court to make an effective appointment of counsel was likewise a denial of due process within the meaning of the Fourteenth Amendment.'

"This is an extenison of Federal authority into a field hitherto occupied exclusively by the several States. Nothing before the Court calls for a consideration of the point. It was not suggested below and petitioners do not ask for a decision here.

A NEW TRIAL FOR THE SCOTTSBORO YOUTHS

Reporter 11-12-32

Birmingham, Ala.

The Supreme Court of the United States has spoken in the case of the Scottsboro youths sentenced to death on a statutory charge in the Alabama courts.

The effect of the decision is that a new trial is to be given. Courts err. That much is well authenticated history. The great body of American law is built on their errors and the quality of American jurisprudence has taken its inception in the genius to overcome them.

Our faith in the courts of the land must be abiding. There are conditions that sometimes forego their best efforts, and, for this reason, the right of appeal cannot be denied.

It is always the part of wisdom to accept their findings with complacent faith and appeal from their decisions with the hope of showing their errors in a higher court. Of course, there is nothing on which to decide a case in court but the evidence but that may be omitted by reason of the lack of proper defense, or, it may be marshalled to such disadvantage that justice may miscarry.

In either case, the blame for this is not of the court's responsibility.

The Scottsboro case has been embarrassed at every point in the progress of it. It was embarrassed by a prejudical atmosphere at the court of original jurisdiction, and it has had the unfortunate situation of both social and political prejudice to encounter at every stage where any action on it might have served the ends of justice.

Now that a new trial has been ordered by the Supreme Court, it may happen that some of the conditions may be ameliorated after a fashion such that evenhanded justice may be dealt.

Cases of this kind that are made to assume political or social import are always laden with sentiments that engender bitterness and involve interest apart from the actual case in point.

The unfortunate thing for the defendants is that considerations beyond the accusation itself have prevented the issue of the actual truth.

From the beginning until now each effort has been attended by excitement enough to make any approach to the actual merits of the case for the purposes of establishing guilt beyond a reasonable doubt improbable. The apparent effort to decide it at the bar of public sentiment has had the complicating effect to array public sentiment one way or the other.

It is our feeling that inflamatory expressions have hindered rather than helped in either way. There is also the certainty that those organizations which use it as capital for its selfish purposes have their activities motivated by impulses and desires of an ultra sinister character. We would advise our people to be careful of these organizations, to be careful of unguarded and inflamatory expressions; to keep clear of those excitable gatherings meant for purposes foreign to any immediate good to themselves. The final outcome of it all must be without profit or advantage.

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cy of the ILD, forced the Alabama Supreme Court to reserve the lynch trial and order a new trial for Eugene in the Juvenile Court. The Alabama Supreme Court upheld the hideous lynch verdicts against the seven other boys.

An appeal will also be made to the workers for funds to enable the ILD to prepare the best possible defense for the boys when the new trials come up in the Alabama courts to which they have been returned by the U. S. Supreme Court.

* * *

Harlem Victory Meet

NEW YORK.—Hundreds of Harlem Negro and white workers attended a victory mass meeting at St. Luke's Hall, 125 West 130th St. last night and pledged themselves to militantly support the fight led by the Communist Party and the International Labor Defense for the unconditional freedom of the Scottsboro boys.

The meeting was addressed by W. W. Weinstone, editor of the Daily Worker, and Richard B. Moore, Negro revolutionary leader.

The Court, without being called upon to consider it, adjudges without a hearing an important Constitutional question concerning criminal procedure in State courts.

"It is a wise rule firmly established by a long course of decisions here that constitutional questions even when properly raised and argued—are to be decided only when necessary for a determination of the rights of the parties in controversy before it."

The Seven Defendants.

The seven defendants in the Scottsboro case are: Charley Weems, 19 years old; Willie Roberson, 17; Andy Wright, 18; Olen Montgomery, 17; Haywood Patterson, 18; Ozie Powell, 16; and Clarence Norris, 20. The crime with which they are charged dates back to March 25, 1931, when as Justice Sutherland states, they with two others were on a freight train on its way through Alabama. According to the records in the case the youths climbed into an open freight gondola where there were seven white boys and two white girls, and ejected the white boys, except one.

From the record, Justice Sutherland pointed out that messages were sent ahead "asking that every Negro be taken off the train." When the train arrived at Paint Rock, the youths were arrested by a sheriff's posse. The girls swore that each of them was attacked by six Negroes, and identified the defendants.

The group was taken to Scottsboro, the county seat, where feeling ran high, and where the sheriff found it necessary to call for the militia. Once the prisoners were taken to Gadsden for safekeeping, but were later returned to Scottsboro for trial.

Indictments were returned March 31, and the defendants were arraigned on the same day in three groups.

The prisoners pleaded not guilty, but the trials were all concluded in a single day and death penalties were imposed upon eight, including one youth named Williams whose conviction was reversed on appeal. The ninth defendant, Roy Wright, was acquitted.

The trial court overruled motions for new trials and the Alabama Supreme Court eventually affirmed the seven convictions. Chief Justice Anderson, however, "thought the defendants had not been accorded a fair trial and strongly dissented," Justice Sutherland observed.

Radicals became deeply interested in the case and the International Labor Defense played a big part in bringing the issue to the Supreme Court.

Police Prepared for Radicals.

The radical demonstration here today found the police heavily reinforced and waiting. Communists had announced well in advance their intention to appear, and had asked for police protection. Within fifteen minutes from the time the police first encountered the demonstrators they were in complete rout.

Banners bearing the inscriptions "Free the Scottsboro Boys" and "The Scottsboro Boys Shall Not Die" had been prepared with unusual craftsmanship. They were uniform in character. The marchers found in them convenient weapons for use against the police.

The crowd, about half of whom were Negroes, with many women, appeared from the direction of the Senate office building a few minutes before noon, when the Supreme Court was scheduled to meet.

An emergency squadron of policemen were sent against the marchers, and for several minutes argued with them against the display of banners. Soon there was a free-for-all fight. Nightsticks thumped. Then a tear gas bomb was tossed, and it sent the marchers scurrying in all directions.

Near the Senate Office Building a small Negro led a band against a young Capitol policeman. Before help could reach the officer he was soundly beaten by the marchers. The policeman drew his revolver, but a detective seized the weapon.

Negro Policeman Captures Pair.

Several blocks away a white man and woman attacked two plainclothes officers. A Negro policeman went to their aid, but the man and woman ran. The policeman chased them furiously for several blocks, however, and managed to overcome them both.

At another point, a

elderly woman drove away in the police van lustily crying:

"Free the Scottsboro boys!"

There was no demonstration about the Capitol when the decision was announced.

Inspector Headley gradually cut down the detail of emergency officers, and shortly before 2 o'clock ordered the plaza cleared of the curious and disbanded the special guard.

THE SCOTTSBORO FIGHT CONTINUES

Another picture of the historic demonstration of Negro and white workers in front of the U. S. Supreme Court Monday, November 7, on behalf of the nine innocent Scottsboro boys. Capitol police thug is shown arresting Negro worker. Police later launched a savage attack on the demonstration, using gas and clubs. The workers militantly defended themselves and many of the Cossacks of capitalism are still nursing injuries. Thirteen of the arrested workers were sentenced to sixty days in jail when their cases came up Thursday before the United States police court. (Film-Photo L

Phila. Workers Hail Scottsboro Victory Today

Daily Worker

11-12-32

New York

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 11.—Negro and white workers of Philadelphia will hold a giant victory mass meeting this Saturday evening at the Broadway Arena in celebration of the tremendous partial victory won by mass pressure on the U. S. Supreme Court, which on November 7 reversed the lynch verdicts against the seven Scottsboro condemned to burn in the electric chair at the original mock trial at Scottsboro, Alabama.

The mass meeting will be preceded by a parade beginning at 6 o'clock from Fourth and Christian Sts. with thousands of workers marching to the mass meeting. At the Arena they will be addressed by William Jones, Managing Editor of the Baltimore Afro-American, Referend Sheppard of this city, and Fred Biedenkamp of the Committee for the Protection of Foreign Born and the ILD.

The keynote of the meeting will be the necessity for further building and development of the mass defense campaign, which alone has saved the boys so far. The fight to force the immediate release of Roy Wright and Eugene Williams, the two other Scottsboro boys will also be reviewed and the workers called upon to intensify the mass campaign for the immediate and unconditional release of all nine of the innocent Scottsboro lads. Roy Wright was never convicted, there being a hung jury in his case at the original trial. In the case of Eugene Williams, mass protest backing the militant defense pol-

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rite is performed by a masked figure, who is painted black. From his black, cone-shaped mask flames a single red plume, typifying the fire flaming from the ovens. He is attended by members of the two clown societies of the Zuni village, according to The Boston Sunday Globe. He visits every home, climbs into every oven and throws imaginary refuse out of it. This act he accompanies with hoots and yells. When he leaves it, the oven is clean, and the Zunis believe it is also purified of all evil. On this occasion the clowns must eat anything offered to them and this results in much hilarity, for the

Oven-Cleaning Is a Ceremony.

Once every four or eight years there is a ceremonial cleaning of the outdoor, cone-shaped ovens of the Zuni Indians of New Mexico.

Zunis amuse themselves by pressing such incredible things as bits metal, dirt, ink and the like

Lynchings—1932

Alabama.

3717

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Educators Just Niggers to Insolent Warden of Birmingham Prison

Professor Bond Visits Scottsboro Boys. Finds that State of Alabama Has Spent but $257 on Education of All Nine of them; 3,000,000 Other Southern Children Have No Chance for Real Learning to Live.

By HORACE MANN BOND

(For Associated Negro Press)

Afro American

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—"Say, John, come take these niggers up to see those Scottsboro niggers!"

The speaker was the insolent white warden of Kilby Penitentiary, addressing a guard. "These niggers" were an Alabama teacher and myself. I had been attending the twenty-ninth session of the National Association of Colored Teachers, in Montgomery.

Baltimore Md.

In the three-day session I had heard Dr. Will Alexander of the Interracial Commission, Dr. T. E. Jones of Fisk University, Dr. John Hope of Atlanta University, Dr. John W. Davis of W. Virginia State College. I had seen the new plant of the Alabama State Teachers' College, two new buildings for which the state had contributed $400,000.

7/23/32

I had seen and heard the great educators of our race conferring on the problems of the Negro school child. I had heard plans for universities, colleges and normal schools.

Education at Montgomery—And at Kilby

Now I stood in another new building a steel and concrete structure that cost the State of Alabama $3,000,000. Within its walls were fourteen hundred human derelicts, about equally divided between black and white. I was out there to learn a bit more about "education" than I had learned in Montgomery.

I wanted to know the kind of educational system that had brought fourteen human beings, one white boy and thirteen black boys, into the shadow of the electric chair. It took a long time to persuade the warden that I had no evil designs in coming to see his charges.

Warden Fears Communists

"You ain't one of them Communist niggers, are you?" he asked. I assured him I was not. "I wouldn't have one of them devils out here for nothin'! They've come down here and pumped them boys full of stuff and raised more stink than this state will stand!"

From his conversation one gleaned the idea that White Alabama was slightly ashamed for the Scottsboro affair, but had made up its mind to "see those niggers burn" for no other reason than to "spite them Communists."

We were led up the cell block containing death row. Once inside, I found myself on familiar ground. Three years before, while teaching in Montgomery, I had witnessed several electrocutions in this very death chamber. If you had been with me, this is what you would have seen:

Sixteen square cells, narrow, high, with rough concrete walls; some with steel net doors, two with solid steel doors with a little peep hole cut in the center. Behind those steel nets, like animals in a cage, you would have seen fourteen human beings. Some were lying down on their narrow cots, the only other furniture in the place being a slop bucket. The light comes from a sky-light in the corridor and dim light bulbs.

Oldest 34

As you looked at those human beings, you would be struck first with their extreme youth. The oldest is thirty-four, and the next to him is twenty-four. Three are seventeen; and little Eugene Williams (given a new trial), remains, nevertheless, in death row, where he has passed his fifteenth and sixteenth birthdays.

"Steal Away"

At the end of death row you would see a solid steel door. As I looked at it, my mind went back to the night three years ago, when I saw Charlie Washington of Birmingham electrocuted in that room for the murder of an Italian fruit dealer.

I remembered the whir of the motor as it shook the building, while I sang hymns with Charlie Washington while a white boy, Johnnie Birchfield, was being executed. I remembered the death march, when Charlie Washington walked steadily beside me into the death chamber, singing his last song, chosen by himself, "Steal Away to Jesus."

I remembered the nauseating smell of human flesh burning as the tensed feet of Charlie Washington met, and the resulting short circuit sent little blue flames shooting from his feet; and the odor that sent me running into the corridor for air, and made a hard-boiled cop from Birmingham who had come down to see "the big nigger burn." faint dead away.

That is what these boys and men were waiting for. Besides the Scottsboro boys, there were four Negro men, and one white boy, awaiting execution for murder.

About the Average for "Niggers"

I had told the warden that I had heard the Scottsboro boys had little education. "Oh, I don't know," he replied. "I guess they're about the average for niggers."

Whatever else other visitors had said, the Scottsboro boys are not lacking in intelligence. In their cells, hair cropped closely, in clean white dungarees, there is not a vicious face among them. They are just the sort of boys in appearance one might find on any high school football team. But they have never been to high school—and they have reecived just about the average sort of schooling that millions of Negro boys and girls in the South can look forward to today.

Osie Powell tells me that he was in the fifth grade when he left school, never to return. With the exception of the young white boy in death row, he has had the best education of any of the rest. The white boy finished the eighth grade. Of the other colored boys, one had been in the fourth grade, eight had been in the third grade, and three in the second grade when their training for life in the public schools had been completed.

This was the education the Sovereign States of Alabama, of Tennessee and Georgia had given to fourteen human beings that the Sovereign State of Alabama now wished to deprive of life.

Record

Here is their educational record. Two men in cells adjoining have been sent up for murder from Conuech County, Alabama. "I ain't had much teachin'. I jes went to school fo' a year and a half." Asked how many months the term lasted. "Oh, I went five months one year, and two months another year."

Here is on eof the Scottsboro boys, born in Elberton, Georgia, who went to school there, in a country school outside of Atlanta, and for one year in Chattanooga. "Why didn't you go on to school?" "Well, you see I just got tired of goin', and I didn't have to go anyway."

One wonders where the truant officer was—but then you know at once that schools for Negroes in the South have not enough room for all the Negro children, so they don't pay attention to making colored children go to school.

A Possible College Boy

Here was Andy Wright, of Chattanooga, who answers the command of the guard without cringing as the others do. At once you feel that, whatever his crime, Andy Wright is a man. As you talk to him, you sense an intelligent mind. And had to leave school at the fourth grade; there wasn't anybody to make him go, anyway. But Andy had to leave school at the last two years, and you wonder whether Andy wouldn't fit well into your college class if he had just a few more years of training. That fatal IF!

What the State Paid to Educate Them

I have figured out a balance sheet, to show how much the state has paid in preparing these boys for a decent life. To do this, I went back to some state reports showing what had been paid for Negro children a-piece in the various communities while these boys were going to school.

Debit

On account, preparation for life, paid by the state for education for two human souls, Conecuh County, Alabama, at $1.50 a-piece for a four-month term	$ 4.50
One human soul, Butler County, Alabama, at $1.00 a-piece for a four-month term	1.50
One human soul from Monroe County, Alabama, at $1.25 a-piece for a four-month term	1.75
One human soul from Shelby County, Alabama, at $3.00 for a six-month term	9.00
One human soul from Elberton, Georgia, Atlanta and Chattanooga, for a total of 22 months of education	31.00
Seven human souls from Chattanooga, at $10.00 apiece for a nine-month term	210.00
Grand total paid by state for preparing 13 HUMAN SOULS for a decent life...	$257.75

What the State Wants to Collect

Credit

To be paid on account as a debt to society and state named above: .... 13 HUMAN SOULS.

IS IT A FAIR RETURN FOR A DEBT of $257.75?

Had these been white boys, these states and cities would have paid $3,185 in preparing them for decent living. But being black, Alabama, for example, spent $16.75 for the entire education of five human beings it now wishes to place in an electric chair, to see their muscles jerk and their flesh burn as electricity courses through them.

Your Child—the "Average Education for Niggers"?

The guard hurried us on out, out of death row, out of the prison, back on our road to Montgomery and the N.A.T.C.S. What had the warden said? "Education? I guess they're about the average for niggers." Sad, but the warden was right; just about three million other boys and girls in the South are now getting the same kind of education that lies behind those thirteen boys in Kilby Penitentiary's death row today. What are you going to do about it?

Bulgaria Orders Alabama Negress to Quit Country

BELGRADE, Jugo-Slavia, Sept. 21 (AP)—Reports from Sofia Wednesday night said the Bulgarian government compelled Ada Wright to leave the country on account of increased communist activities since her arrival last week.

The Macon Telegraph

9-22-32

Ada Wright is the mother of one of several Negro youths under sentence of death in Alabama on a charge of attacking white girls.

The woman has been touring Europe ostensibly to obtain signatures to a petition for the Negroes. She has been expelled from several countries previously.

PUSH SCOTTSBORO FIGHT IN EUROPE

Daily Worker

Protest Grows on Mrs. Wright's Expulsion

9-22-32

New York, N.Y.

VIENNA, Sept. [illegible]—During her stay in this city, following upon her expulson from Czecho-slovakia, Mrs. Ada Wright, Scottsboro Mother, revealed that despite her protests the Czechoslovakian police [illegible] photo and fingerprints.

A campaign is now being carried on in Czechoslovakia to secure the withdrawal of the expulsion order so that Mrs. Wright can return to hold the planned series of Scottsboro protest meetngs. A deputation will visit President Masaryk. An interpellation will also be made in the Czech parliament concerning the expulsion. Proceedings for libel are to be taken against the "Vecher," the pehsonal organ of the Minister of the Interior Slavik, which viciously attacked the Scottsboro Mother. An appeal also has been lodged against the expulsion order.

All European sections of the International Red Aid are intensifying the campaign as the date, Oct. 10, nears for the hearing before the United States Supreme Court

STATE GAVE $247.75 FOR EDUCATION OF THIRTEEN HUMAN BEINGS WHOSE LIVES IT NOW SEEKS TO CLAIM

Teacher Interviews Scottsboro Boys In Death Row Of Alabama Prison And Finds Some Interesting Facts

By HORACE MANN BOND

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—(ANP)—"Say, John, come take these niggers up to see those Scottsboro niggers!"

Journal and Guide

The speaker was the warden of Kilby penitentiary, addressing a guard. "These niggers" were an Alabama teacher and myself. I had been attending the twenty-ninth annual session of the National Association of Colored Teachers, in Montgomery. In the three-day session I heard Dr. Will Alexander of the Interracial Commission, Dr. T. E. Jones of Fisk University, Dr. John Hope of Atlanta University, Dr. John W. Davis of West Virginia State College.

Norfolk Va.

I had seen the new plant of the Alabama State Teachers College, two new buildings for which the state had contributed four hundred thousand dollars. I had seen and heard the great educators of our race conferring on the problems of the Negro school child. I had heard plans for universities, colleges, and normal schools.

9/23/32.

Education At Montgomery—And At Kilby

Now I stood in another new building, a steel and concrete structure that cost Alabama three million dollars. Within its walls were fourteen hundred human derelicts, about equally divided between black and white. I was out there to learn a bit more about "education" than I had learned in Montgomery.

I wanted to know the kind of educational system that had brought fourteen human beings, one white boy and thirteen black boys, into the shadow of the electric chair. It took a long time to persuade the warden that I had no evil designs in coming to see his charges.

The Warden Fears Communists and Radicals

"You ain't one of them communist niggers, are you?" he asked. Softly I assured him I was not. "I wouldn't have one of them devils out here for nothin'! They've come down here and pumped them boys full of stuff and raised more stink than this state will stand!"

From his conversation one gleaned the idea that White Alabama was slightly ashamed of the Scottsboro affair, but had made up its mind to "see those niggers burn" for no other reason than to "spite them Communists."

We were led up to the cell block containing death row. Once inside, I found myself on familiar ground. Three years before, while teaching in Montgomery, I had witnessed several electrocutions in this very death chamber. If you had been with me, this is what you would have seen:

These are Things Seen In Prison

Sixteen square cells, narrow, high, with rough concrete walls; some with steel net doors, two with solid steel doors with a little peep hole cut in the center. Behind those steel nets, like animals in a cage, you would have seen fourteen human beings.

Some were lying down on their narrow cots, the only other furniture in the place being a slop bucket. The light comes from a sky-light in the corridor and dim light bulbs.

As you looked at those human beings, you would be struck first with their extreme youth. The oldest is thirty-four, and the next to him is twenty-four. Three are seventeen; and little Eugene Williams, (given a new trial), remains nevertheless in Death Row where he has passed his fifteenth and sixteenth birthdays.

At the end of Death Row you would see a solid steel door. As I looked at it, my mind went back to the night three years ago when I saw Charlie Washington of Birmingham electrocuted in that room for the murder of an Italian fruit dealer. I remembered the whir of the motor as it shook the building, while I sang hymns with Charlie Washington while a white boy, Johnnie Birchfield, was being electrocuted.

I remembered the death march, when Charlie Washington walked steadily beside me into the death chamber, singing his last song chosen by himself, "Steal Away to Jesus." I remember the nauseating smell of human flesh burning as the tensed feet of Charlie Washington met, and the resulting short circuit sent little blue flames shooting from his feet; and the odor that sent me running into the corridor for air, and made a hard-boiled cop from Birmingham, who had come down to see "the big nigger burn," faint dead away.

That is what these boys and men were waiting for. Besides the Scottsboro boys, there were four Negro men, and one white boy, awaiting execution for murder.

About the Average For "Niggers"

I had told the Warden I had heard the Scottsboro boys had little education. "Oh, I don't know," he replied. "I guess they're about the average for niggers."

Whatever else other visitors had said, the Scottsboro boys are not lacking in intelligence. In their cells, hair cropped closely, in clean white dungarees, there is not a vicious face among them. They are just the sort of boys in appearance one might find on any high school football team.

But they have never been to high school—and they have received just about the average sort of schooling that millions of Negro boys and girls in the South can look forward to today.

Osie Powell tells me he was in the fifth grade when he left school, never to return. With the exception of the young white boy in Death Row has had the best education of any of the rest. The white boy finished the eighth grade.

Of the other colored boys, one had been in the fourth grade, eight had been in the third grade, and three in the second grade when their training for life in the public schools had been completed.

Education of Sovereign States

This was the education the sovereign states of Alabama, Tennessee and Georgia had given to fourteen human beings that sovereign state of Alabama now wished to deprive of life.

Here is their educational record. Two men in cells adjoining have been sent up for murder from Conecuh County, Ala. "I ain't had much teachin'. I jes went to school for a year and a half." Asked how many months the term lasted, "Oh, I went five months one year, and two months another year."

Here is one of the Scottsboro boys, born in Elberton, Georgia, who went to school there, in a country school outside of Atlanta, and for one year in Chattanooga. "Why didn't you go on to school?" "Well, you see, I just got tired of goin', and I didn't have to go anyway."

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Grand Total paid by State for preparing thirteen human souls for a decent life, $257.75.

What the State Wants to Collect

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THIRTEEN HUMAN SOULS—IS IT A FAIR RETURN FOR A DEBT OF $257.75?

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God help those thirteen unfortunate boys, and God help those three million other boys and girls in the South today who but for blind chance might be here today, or twenty years from today. Maybe, Negro fathers and mothers, it may be your son or daughter who will have to balance his little debt to the state by giving his life. What are you going to do about it?

Scottsboro Negro's Mother Is Expelled By Bulgarians

[illegible]

BELGRADE, JUGO SLAVIA, Sept. 21—(AP)—Reports from Sofia tonight said the Bulgarian Government had compelled Ada Wright to leave the country on account of increased communist activities since her arrival last week.

Montgomery

Ada Wright is the mother of one of seven negro youths under sentence of death in Alabama on a charge of attacking white girls.

The woman has been touring Europe ostensibly to obtain signatures to a petition for the negroes. She has been expelled from several countries previously

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Knight Prepares Brief On Scottsboro Negroes

Advertiser

9-20-32

Brief for the State, to be submitted together with oral arguments before the U. S. Supreme Court on Oct. 10 in support of the judgment of the Alabama Supreme Court affirming action of the trial court in the cases of the seven negroes who were convicted and sentenced to death for criminally assaulting two white girls near Scottsboro in the Spring of 1931, was being completed by Atty. Gen. Knight yesterday.

Montgomery Ala

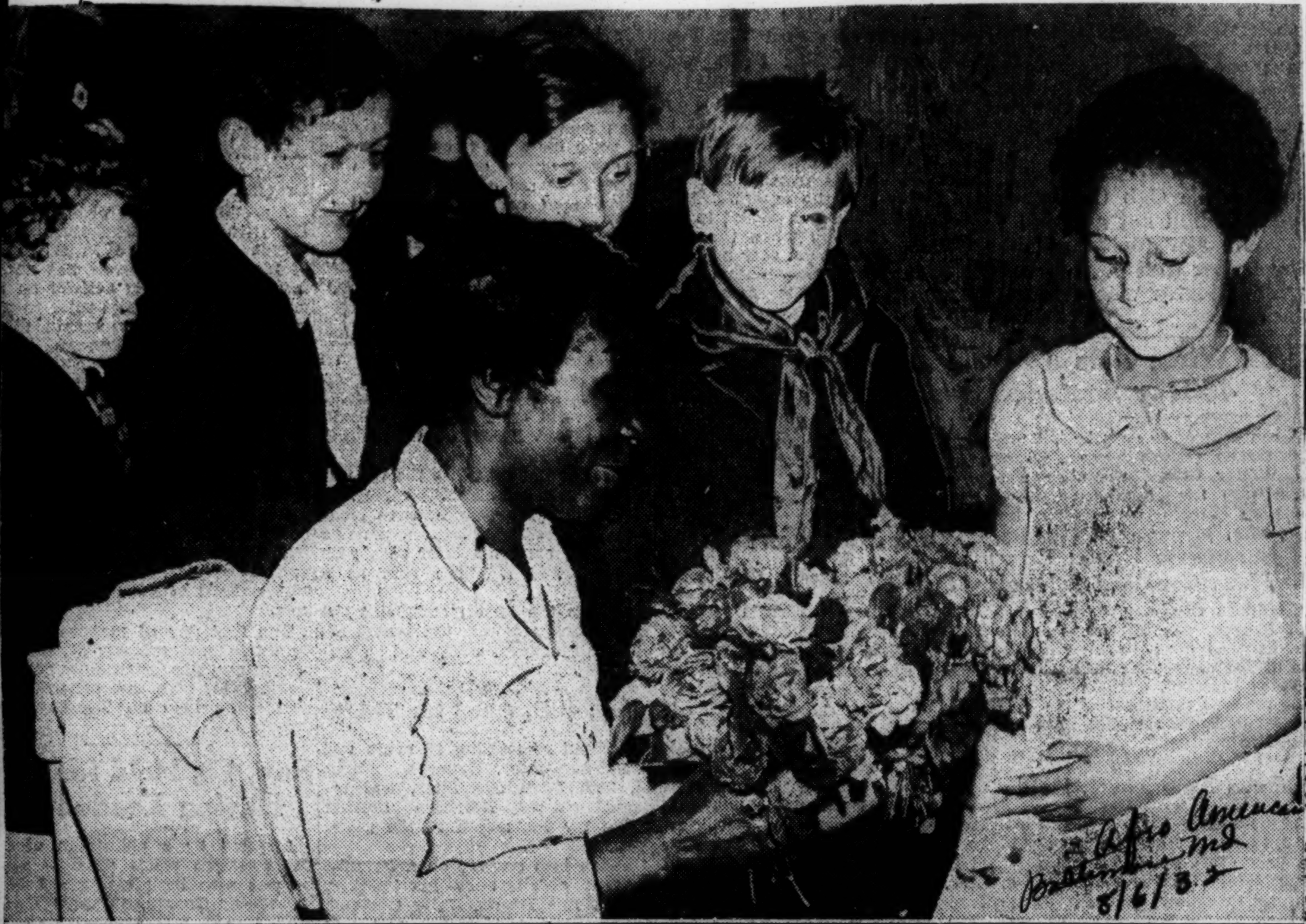
The Attorney General who is being aided in preparation of the case by Asst. Atty. Gen. T. S. Lawson is expected to wind up the task some time today, so that the manuscript of the brief may be in the offices of the U. S. Supreme Court for printing by Saturday. The points stressed by the Attorney General are that the negroes were tried and convicted by due process of law; that they were given the law's fullest protection, and received a fair and impartial trial.

Lynchings—1932

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Alabama.

3718



Afro American
Baltimore Md
8/6/32

YOUNG WHITE ENGLISH CHILDREN HEAR OF AMERICAN LYNCHINGS FOR FIRST TIME.—Mrs. Ada White, mother of two of the condemned Scottsboro. Ala., boys, who recently spoke at the Shoreditch Town Hall in London to aid her sons' cause. She is shown telling a group of kids, who gave her flowers, how Americans burn their citizens for alleged crimes on whites.

SCOTTSBORO FIGHT GOES TO ENGLAND

Afro-American
8-13-32

Oxford Student Seeks Aid of Shaw, Wells and Galsworthy.

Baltimore Md

SISTER OF BOYS BIDS HIM ADIEU

Girl at Boat as Militant Scholar Sails.

NEW YORK—The younger generation of two continents, two races and two extremes of social opportunity, pledged each other to mutual devotion in a common cause when Lucille Wright, ten-year-old Tennessee girl, bade Gabriel Carritt, white student, Godspeed on the deck of the S.S. "Minnetonka," last week.

Gabriel Carritt is a student of Oxford University, member of an aristocratic family in England, son of Professor E. F. Carritt, professor of philosophy of Oxford University. Lucille Wright is the ten-year-old sister of two of the condemned Scottsboro boys, Roy Wright, 15, and Andy Wright, 19

Young Carritt left on the S. S "Minnetonka" to organize the English Committee for the defense of the Scottsboro boys, which will include such men as Bernard Shaw H. G. Wells, Julien Huxley, Aldous Huxley, John Galsworthy, Gilbert Murray, and other of Mr. Carritt's acquaintances in the intellectual and social life in England.

Takes Letter to Mother

The Scottsboro boys are the nine young colored youths who have been in the death house in Kilby Prison, Alabama, awaiting execution for more than a year, after they had been sentenced to death in the Scottsboro courthouse, with an armed mob outside. Their case comes up before the United States Supreme Court in October.

When Carritt departed, Lucille Wright was at the pier, with a committee from the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners, to speed Carritt on his mission of mercy to England. She gave him a letter to her mother, Mrs. Ada Wright, who is now in Germany on a speaking tour to arouse international sentiment for her two sons and the other seven Scottsboro boys.

Went to Kentucky

Young Carritt came to America from Christ Church, Oxford University to study at Columbia. While here in New York, he became sympathetic to radical causes, because of his participation in the student delegation to Kentucky mine fields and the students' strike at Columbia in both of which he was a leader.

He has recently returned from a trip through the Black Belt in the South to investigate conditions among starving Negro farmers in the South. His sympathies have been deeply moved by the plight of the Scottsboro boys and he leaves to arouse public sentiment in England. He will organize meetings of protest at Oxford, Cambridge, Manchester and Edinburgh, and at the great aristocratic public schools Eton, Harrow, and Winchester

The Committee in England will be a link of the international campaign to save the Scottsboro boys of which Albert Einstein is head.

When interviewed, young Carritt said: "Workers of America of all races have given of their pennies, dimes, and quarters for the Scottsboro boys through the International Labor Defense. They have borne the brunt of the tremendous expenses of the Scottsboro defense, which had to be taken from the Alabama Supreme Court to the United States Supreme Court.

Expects Aid

"The National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners has succeeded in raising much sentiment among writers and artists here in America and has been of great assistance in raising funds. There has been a fine response to their emergency appeal sent out recently from their offices at 799 Broadway, for funds for the legal defense, which is under the able direction of Walter Pollack of the Wickersham Committee.

"But a great deal of money is still needed, and there is a fear that the fund will prove inadequate for the legal task which we must undertake. I am sure that fine-spirited, liberal men and women in England will respond to this cause, which will have an appeal to them even greater than that of the Sacco-Vanzetti case."

Mrs. Wright In Spain

SCOTTSBORO MOTHER WILL TOUR THE COUNTRY

Guardian
Boston Massachusetts
8/13/32

Copenhagen...., Denmark, Aug. 6, 1932—Mrs. Ada Wright, mother of two of the nine Scottsboro boys, and J. Louis Engdahl, secretary of the International Labor Defense of the United States left Denmark last week to go to Spain, where they will speak in all principal cities.

The tour of the Scottsboro mother in the Scandinavian countries was further illustration of the solidarity of the European toilers with the cause of the nine framed Scottsboro boys. Thousands of workers demonstrated at the central railroad station here upon the occasion of Mrs. Wright's arrival. This reception was followed by a great parade.

Scottsboro Enters Swedish Strike Struggle

Swedish Like American Socialists Sabotage Fight for Scottsboro Boys

By J. LOUIS ENGDAHL.

Daily Worker
8/11/32
New York City
New York

INDUSTRIAL centers of various kinds in Sweden helped spread the Scottsboro protest in response to the tour of the Negro Mother from the United States. Interest in the Scottsboro campaign finds a basis among workers in all industries. It did not matter in Sweden whether it was the great Asea Electrical works in Vaesteros; the textile centers of Norrkoping and Boroes; the workers of various trades as in the nation's capitol, Stockholm or the seamen and harbor workers of Lervik and Soderhamm. There was an equal interest everywhere.

It remained for the Social-Demokraten, the chief organ of the Social-Democratic Party ,to find a basis of cleavage, to find a forbidden ground in the working class struggle, where the Scottsboro mother, Mrs. Ada Wright, should not set foot. It discovered this forbidden zone to be Soderhamm, center of strike struggles. But great parts of Northern Sweden are pretty well covered with strike struggles, militantly fought against the employers' imported strike breakers, defended by the police power of the state.

Under Cloak of "No Politics"

Like Vandervelde, Blum and other leading social-democrats, their counterparts in Sweden insist that the Scottsboro campaign must be completely isolated from "politics." Social-Demokraten, of Stockholm, argued that it was doing a disfavor to the Scottsboro mother and her cause to send her to speak in the Soderhamm strike zone. It would be putting the stamp of "politics" upon her non-political cause. But the Scottsboro mother gave her answer by declaring that it was the workers who were carrying on the basic struggle for the release of the Scottsboro boys, and that she had found specially strong support for the Scottsboro cause among striking workers. And she insisted on going to Soderhamm. And in Soderhamm striking workers themselves, thru their own spokesmen, specially greeted the Scottsboro mother and [illegible] denounced the traitor role of the "Social-Demokraten." The strikers pointed out that they, the victims of police clubs and bullets, could well understand the issue involved in the Scottsboro persecution and pledged themselves to help build the struggle until the Scottsboro boys were freed from the clutches of capitalist class justice that reaches out for its victims among workers of all races and nationalities. They understand clearly that it is not purely a humanitarian issue that grows out of a mistake committed by the capitalist courts that are otherwise "fair and impartial."

After that the "Social-Demokraten" closed its columns to the Scottsboro campaign—the social-democrat in charge of Sweden's government - controlled radio refused the Scottsboro mothers the right to broadcast her appeal to the nation.

Renegades Ignore Case

The Kilblom right wing renegades (with whom the American Lovestoneites are affiliated) who received subsidies for their press from the Ivar Kreuger treasure chests joined the social-democrats in seeking to ignore the Scottsboro campaign which received considerable publicity in Sweden, as in Norway, from the press generally, including the syndicalist daily newspaper published in Stockholm.

The response to the Scottsboro appeal can be measured in many ways. In Norrkoping, for instance, there were greater thousands in the Scottsboro demonstration than in last May Day's demonstration. The police of Norrkoping evidently felt the undercurrent of Scottsboro protest since they began making arrests early of those distributing propaganda for the meeting and a special police stenographer was brought down from Stockholm in order to get a record of everything that was said by the speakers. In fact the Swedish police built their activities more and more after the German model.

Support Red Aid Congress

It may be said that the tour of the Scottsboro Negro mother in Sweden actually discovered for the Swedish workers not only the necessity but the tremendous possibility of building a mass Red Aid organization.

So. Body for Ala. Lads

TO FORM SOUTHERN COMMITTEE FOR AID TO SCOTTSBORO NINE

Guardian
8-27-32
Boston Mass

Chattanooga, Tenn., Aug. 22, 1932—A Southern committee to aid in the defense of the Scottsboro boys is now being formed by leading Southern liberals, intellectuals and working-class leaders.

Under the signatures of Claude Patterson, father of Haywood, one of the boys, and George W. Chamlee, attorney in the case, a letter has gone out asking for intensified activity on behalf of the boys, in preparation for the hearing of the case before the U. S Supreme Court in October. The project has received the endorsement of the parents and nearest-of-kin of all the boys.

Czecho-Slovakia Deports Alabama Negro's Mother

Advertiser
9-6-32
Montgomery Ala

PRAGUE, CZECHO-SLOVAKIA, Sept 5—(AP)—Ada Wright, mother of one of the seven Alabama negroes under a death sentence for attacking two white girls, was ordered deported from Czecho-Slovakia tomorrow.

The woman had been touring Europe in connection with the case of the Alabama negroes, and entered Czecho-Slovakia last weekend to gather prominent signatures for the condemned youths.

But the police found her in Kladno, a trouble center in the coal fields where communist agitation has appeared, and a meeting had been scheduled shortly after the woman's arrival.

The charge against her is that she meddled in the country's internal affairs

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Scottsboro Fund Honor Roll

Amsterdam News
10-19-32
New York N.Y.

Previously contributed	$32.55

NEW CONTRIBUTIONS.

Johnnie Hughes, 135 West 135th street	1.00
Mrs. Emma Dixon, 915 West End avenue	2.00
Final total	$35.55

Belgian Police Arrest Scottsboro Mother

Mrs. Ada Wright Held for Deportation On Charge of Speaking at Scottsboro Protest Meeting

Attempt to Disrupt World-Wide Mass Defense of Innocent Negro Lads Engineered by U. S. Imperialists

Daily Worker
8-24-32
New York N.Y.

BRUSSELS, Belgium, Aug. 23.—Mrs. Ada Wright, Scottsboro Negro mother was again arrested yesterday by Belgian police in an attempt to disrupt the world-wide mass defense for the nine innocent Negro boys facing death in Alabama. The police attack on Mrs. Wright's tour was carried out at the instigation of the diplomatic representatives of U. S. imperialism.

This is the second time Mrs. Wright has been arrested by the Belgian police. On the first occasion, several weeks ago, she was taken across the border and deported.

She is now charged with addressing a meeting of Belgian workers at Gilly, near Charleroi, one of the centers of the big Belgian strike. It has been intimated in American imperialist circles here that the Belgian government will again order her to leave the country.

The Belgian women workers defending Mrs. Wright against arrest were also arrested by the police. They are charged with resisting police officers "in the performance of their duty."

Mass meetings are being arranged by the International Red Aid sections in Belgium and France to demand the unconditional release of Mrs. Wright and the three Belgian workers. The meetings will demand the right of Mrs. Wright to address the Belgian toiling masses in behalf of the world wide fight to save and free the Scottsboro Negro boys.

MRS. ADA WRIGHT

MRS. WRIGHT IN JAIL 4 NIGHTS

Then Czech Gov't Expells Engdahl and Her

(Cable By Inprecorr.)

Daily Worker
9-10-32
New York N.Y.

BERLIN, Sept. 9.—J. Louis Engdahl and Mrs. Ada Wright, mother of one of the Scotsboro boys, were expelled from Czechoslovakia and ordered never to return.

Mrs. Wright spent three of four nights in jail under the strict regime. The money given her to buy food was confiscated. Engdahl was arrested twice and expelled as an "undesirable foreigner." The Red Aid organization was prohibited in Czechoslovakia.

Both Engdahl and Mrs. Wright are now in Vienna.

* * *

As the date for the hearing on the Scottsboro case approaches (the hearing will take place on October 10), the workers of the United States must develop a veritable storm of protest against the frame-up of the Negro boys. The fight for their immediate release must be intensified right here at home, as it is being sharpened in Europe through the tour of Engdahl and Mrs. Wright

Lynchings-1932
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Alabama.

3719 3719

Save the Scottsboro Boys! Force Release of Mooney!

Daily Worker

9-19-32

New York, N.Y.

THE following appeal by the world wide organization of the International Labor Defense has just been received:

Seven Negro boys languish in a row of narrow death cells in Scottsboro, Alabama. Two others await trial before a court of class justice and the prosecutors have sworn that they too shall be sent to join the seven. In San Quentin, California, Tom Mooney, militant fighter in the struggles of the working class has been held in prison for more than 16 years. The Scottsboro and Mooney frame-ups are two of the most sordid and despicable in the history of American labor.

The Scottsboro Negro boys symbolize the increasing militancy of some 14,000,000 black workers and poor farmers—the most oppressed and exploited toilers in America. They symbolize the growing unity between the black and white toilers upon whose shoulders the American bourgeoisie is trying to thrust the whole burden of the crisis. From his prison cell Mooney has declared his solidarity with the Scottsboro boys.

The Scottsboro boys were brought to trial on April 1931 before a prejudiced court and in an atmosphere of race hatred. They were the victims of perjured testimony and found guilty on a false charge of rape, and sentenced to be executed on July 10, 1931.

Only the intervention of International Red Aid (the International Labor Defense is the American Section, which instituted a world-wide protest movement in their behalf has saved their lives thus far. So great was this protest movement that the Supreme Court of the United States has been compelled to take up their Appeal which is to be heard on October 10th.

* * *

THE American bourgeoisie is ruthless. They murdered Sacco and Vanzetti in 1927. They have kept Mooney and Billings in prison for 16 years when the world knows they are the victims of an atrocious frame-up. Corrupt themselves, they offered to release Mooney if he would desert the workers' cause, if he would "promise to be good." But Tom Moony spurned their offer with the contempt it deserved. They club ,torture and shoot down the toilers who struggle against misery and starvation. **And now they want to burn the lives out of the innocent Scottsboro boys.**

Now, more than ever, it is necessary to broaden and intensify the campaign to save the lives of the Scottsboro boys and to compel the American bourgeoisie to release them, Mooney, and all other class war prisoners. **October 10th, proclaimed by International Red Aid as "Scottsboro Day" must be made a day of impelling protest and demonstration.**

YOU TOILERS:—Know that the Scottsboro and Mooney Frame-up are a ruling class attack on YOUR militancy and the working class unity that repudiates and casts aside all prejudices of race, nationality or color.

You POOR FARMERS:—The same ruling class which has kept Mooney in prison for 16 years and now seeks to send a current of death-dealing electricity through the bodies of the innocent Scottsboro boys, also drives you from your farms, sends its police to torture you and throw you into prison. When you fight for Mooney and the Scottsboro boys you are fighting for yourselves.

YOU YOUNG WORKERS:—From their death cells the Scottsboro youths have appealed to YOU to save them. "We are innocent," they said, **"the white ruling class of Alabama would burn us in an electric chair because we are workers and our skin is black!"** And Mooney, whose youth was spent fighting to make a better world for you to live in, now calls you to join the fight for the release of all class war prisoners.

YOU MOTHERS:—Mooney's 84-year-old mother, together with the Scottsboro mothers, turn to you in their agony. You will not see their innocent sons made the victims of a judicial murder, without raising your voice in protest. Join the fight to return their sons to them and to the workers' movement.

YOU INTELLECTUALS:—You will not remain silent while the American bourgeoisie prepare another Sacco and Vanzetti horror. It is in your power to get the ear of the public. Exercise that power to broadcast the hellish facts of the Mooney and Scottsboro frame-ups .

* * *

INTERNATIONAL RED AID sends this Appeal to the toiling masses, and mothers and intellectuals of the world and urges with all the earnestness it can command that you intensify the fight on behalf of Mooney and the Scottsboro boys.

Intensify the Scottsboro-Mooney International Campaign!

Make the October 10th demonstrations so great that the Supreme Court of the United States will feel the volume of protest!

Utilize every opportunity to draw new elements into the protest movement!

Support the legal aspects of the Scottsboro case with mass pressure!

This and this alone will save their lives! This and this alone will restore Mooney and the Scottsboro boys to freedom!

—EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, INTERNATIONAL RED AID.

AKRON, O.
TIMES PRESS
SEP 8 [illegible]

PROPAGANDA

Editor, The Times-Press:—

Yesterday I was handed some vicious propaganda now being distributed by the Communist party. In part it reads:

"Seven Negro boys, merely children, are being tortured in the death cell in Montgomery, Alabama prison and forced to witness the killing of victims in the chair. Their torturers constantly remind them that on October 18 they will die. These victims of a vicious frame-up are to be murdered in order to terrorize the workers and farmers of the south into submitting to still lower wages, peonage, worse misery" . . . As this ends the paragraph I will begin mine.

A little over a year ago there were two white girls hitch-hiking in overalls on a freight train in the neighborhood of Scottsboro, Alabama.

This train was alleged to have been boarded by seven Negroes varying from 17 to 20 years and they were charged with assaulting these girls. The affair was witnessed from the outside and police notified but the train was under way before the police arrived. So the police wired the officers at the next town and they were arrested and convicted and sentenced to die for the crime.

As I lived in the vicinity of Scottsboro for several years I am in position to know more about this than the average Akronite and it is not a good idea for the colored race to insult southern white women, it is almost suicide. In the state prison at Montgomery, Alabama, prisoners are not permitted, much less compelled to see other prisoners electrocuted. The condemned is placed in a cell next to "the little green room" the night before and when he goes to his death he passes no other cell, he just steps out of one cell into the "little green room." He is not even asked if he has anything to say. All this is attended to the day before by the chaplain and when the condemned enters the "little green room" absolute quiet reigns. Even instructions are given in signs. And prisoners are not constantly reminded of the date of their execution.

A SOUTHERNER.

Scottsboro Trial Ruling Awaited

Advertiser

Supreme Court Convenes Monday With Negroes Pleas Near Docket's Top

10-2-32

Montgomery

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1.—(AP)—The Supreme Court reconvenes Monday from its long Summer recess, confronted by a crowded docket which has near its top the Scottsboro case, in which the lives of seven Alabama negroes hang upon the court's opinion of the fairness of their trial.

Neither this nor other pending cases, however, will receive action at the first session. The court expects then to receive motions, pay a courtesy call to the White House and adjourn to Oct. 10. At the next Monday session it will begin announcing whether it will review some 370 cases which have accumulated during the recess.

The Scottsboro case, consisting of three appeals filed on behalf of the negroes convicted of assaults on two white women near the Alabama town of that name and sentenced to death, was among eight set for argument on Oct. 10 before the court adjourned last Spring. The quest for a new trial is based on the claim that inflamed condition of the public mind and the presence of State militia prevented the men from receiving a fair trial.

Among the more important cases pending are two from Texas involving the power of the State to restrict oil production and two involving the validity of chain store taxes in Florida and Kentucky.

The tariff is before the court in five cases challenging the validity of presidential orders issued under its flexible provision.

Mrs. Wright Hails Mass Fight In U. S. for Scottsboro 9

Daily Worker

European Workers to Demonstrate October 8 at U. S. Consulates

9-28-32

(Cable By Inprecorr)

BERLIN, Sept. 27.—Louis Engdahl who is completing a tour of Europe with Mrs. Ada Wright, mother of one of the Scottsboro boys, reports that meetings have been fixed at Bregenz, Innsbruck, Graz, Leoben, Linz and Poelten by the Austrian Section of the International Red Aid.

This will be Mrs. Wright's third attempt to speak at Graz. The last time the socialist police chief prohibited the meeting alleging that it would represent a danger to law and order.

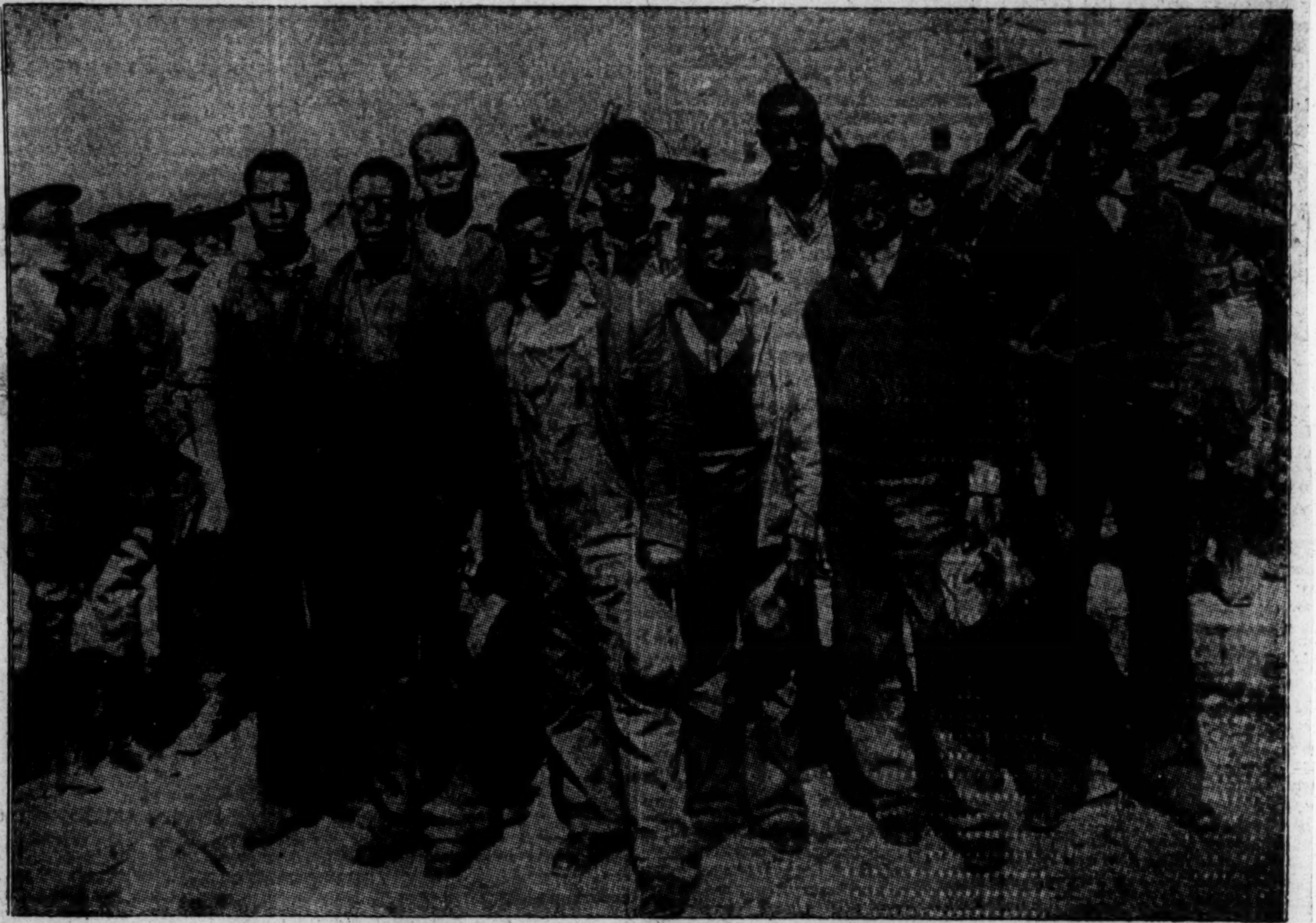
New York

VIENNA, Austria, Sept. 27.—Mrs. Ada Wright, now touring Europe on behalf of her two sons, Andy and Roy and the seven other Scottsboro lads, yesterday sent her greetings to the American workers when she was informed of American preparations for National Scottsboro Week from Oct. 3 to October 10.

"The comrades over here, said Mrs. Wright, ",in England, Germany, France and Austria and a dozen other countries are also working harder and harder for the freedom of our boys as the time for the review of their case by the Supreme Court comes closer.

"Everybody here is concentrating on the demonstrations that are going to be held on October 8 in front of the American consulates and embassies. It is certainly encouraging to me and the comrades over here to know that the same thing is going on in the U. S. A.," said the Scottsboro mother

NINE BOYS—"To The Court Of Last Appeal"



Pictured above are the **NINE BOYS**, whose case goes to "The Court of Last Appeal" Monday. The boys, principals in the ~~now internationally~~ famous Scottsboro case, are Charlie Weems, 20; Clarence Norris, 19; Andy Wright, 18; Heywood Patterson, 18; Willie Roberson, 17; Olin Montgomery, 16; Ozie Powell, 16; Roy Wright, 14, and Eugene Williams, 13.

Daily Worker

French Intellectuals Join Fight for Scottsboro Boys

THE story of the Scottsboro case, case, carried to Europe by Ada Wright, mother of two of the condemned boys, and J. Louis Engdahl of the International Labor Defense created a sensation all over the European Continent. Within the last few weeks, as a result of the Wright-Engdahl tour and appeals sent out by the European sister organizations of the I. L. D., the National office of the I. L. D. has received from Mrs. Wright a number of interesting communications on the Scottsboro question, sent her by European writers. The latest to join the International protest are the intellectuals of France. Following the lead of the Group of the French Proletarian writers, some of the outstanding figures in the French world of letters have joined the swelling chorus of protest against the attempted legal lynching of the Scottsboro boys by the white ruling class of Alabama.

10-6-33

LEADING WRITERS

The thirty-eight members of the Group of French Proletarian writers were led in their protest by Tristan Remy, Henry Poulaille, Joseph Voisin and Madeleine Paz. Henri Barbusse, author of **Le Feu** and other books of international repute and editor of **Monde**, has issued the following challenge to his fellow intellectuals: "if we do not do everything in our power to prevent this crime, the shame will be on our heads." George Duhamel, one of the best known of French Novelists and winner of the Prix Concourt, who recently published a volume of impression of the United States was one of the first to respond to the call of the International Red Aid, of which the I.L.D. is the American section.

Luc Durtain, novelist and critic; Leon Worth, one of the editors of **Monde**; J. Guehenno, an editor of **Europe**; Victor Margueritte, novelist of world reputation; Andre Breton, S. M. Monnerot, Roger Caillois, P. Elnard, Reno Char, Salvator Dali, Rene Crevel, Yves Tanguy, B. Peret, Andre Thirion, Guy Rosey, Tristan Tzara, Charles Vildrac, E. Chauvelon, Han Ryner, Jean Mareston, Armand Charpentier, have all issued statements of protest against the Scottsboro verdicts.

* * *

ONE French intellectual, A. Harak of Gennevilliers (Seine), who was formerly Counsellor of Legation in the French diplomatic service, has addressed the following letter to the American Ambassador to France: "I consider your government as responsible for the Scottsboro sentences. The execution of the eight Negroes would be a criminal act of assassination on the part of your government and would call down upon it universal disapproval and condemnation. I protest most energetically against this crime."

MANY LETTERS ...

As a result of the appeal of the French section of the I. R. A., Mrs. Wright has received letters from several organizations in which important French intellectuals play leading roles. Beranrd Lecache has written her in his capacity of chairman of the International League against Anti-Semitism, expressing sympathy and solidarity. "The Jewish and non-Jewish members of the League," he writes, "feel that in taking the part of the persecuted Negroes, they pursue their task, which is to struggle in all countries against pogroms which dishonor humanity, for the solidarity of peoples and peace among men. We will exert all our energies to obtain justice for your boys and their comrades."

G. Duchene, General Secretary of the International Women's Peace and Freedom League, has written: 'The French Section of the League instructs me to inform you that it joins in indignant protest with you. I hope the lively demonstrations being organized throughout the world will result in winning the acquital and release of these victims of an injustice revolting to the human conscience."

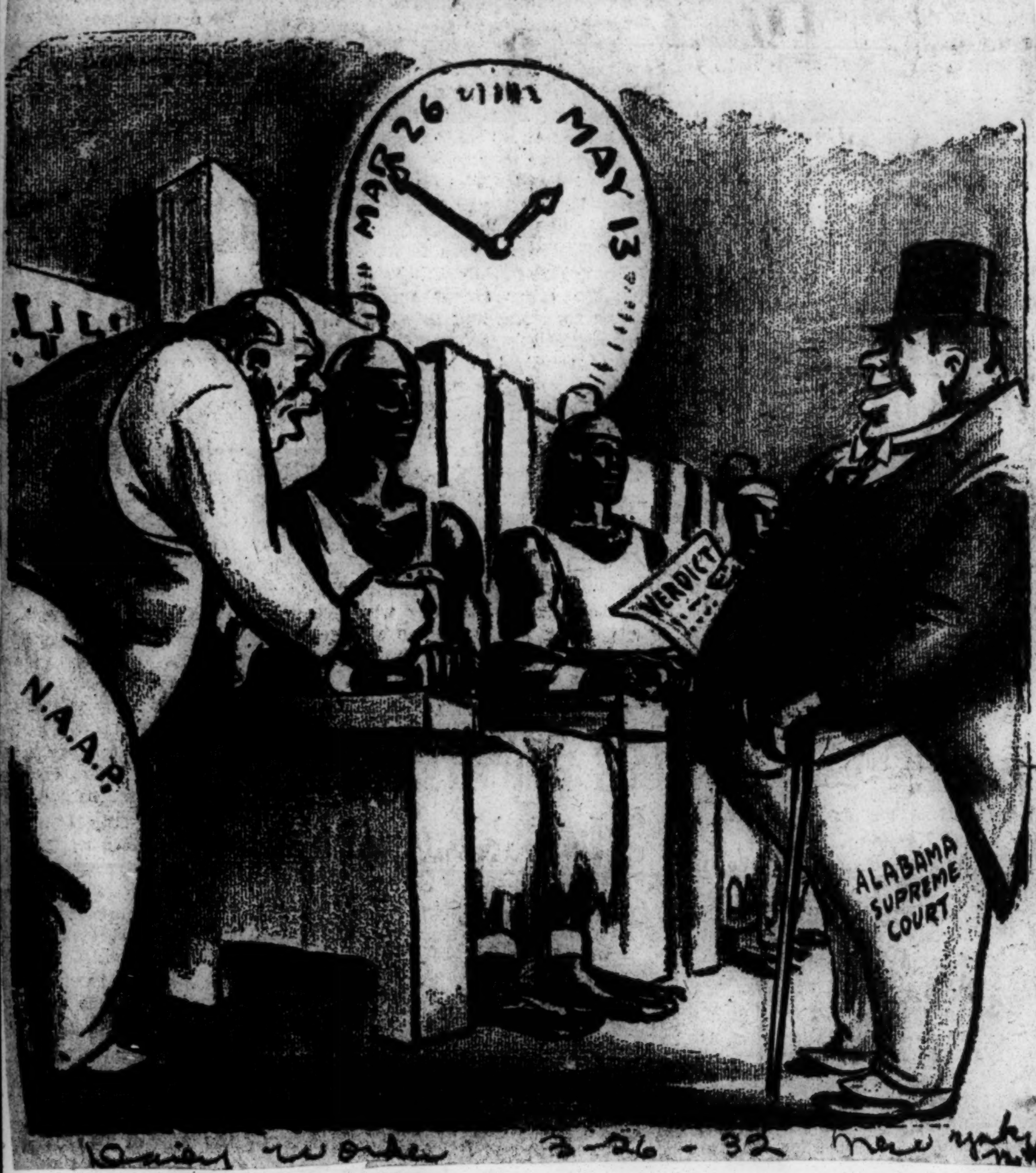
Lynchings-1932

Alabama.

3720

Legal Punishment for Rape.

N. A. A. C. P.—"I'M ALMOST DONE, BOSS!"



Daily Worker 3-26-32 New York N.Y.

NATION-WIDE FIGHT SPURRED TO SAVE BOYS

Daily Worker 3-26-32 New York

Majority Opinion of Alabama Supreme Court Brazenly Denies All Rights of Oppressed Negro Masses

The International Labor Defense announced yesterday that a motion for an appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court will be filed at once by George W. Chamlee, Chattanoga attorney of the ILD, against the decision of the Alabama Supreme Court in upholding the lynch death sentences against seven of the eight innocent Scottsboro boys sentenced to burn in the electric chair in one of the most outrageous frame-ups even in the history of the murderous capitalist system.

The Alabama Supreme Court by 6 to 1 affirmed the savage death verdicts handed out in a tense lynch atmosphere by the lower court at Scottsboro, Ala. Chief Justice John C. Anderson in dissenting from the opinion of the majority admitted that the defendants did not get a fair and impartial trial. He wrote in part:

"At to whether or not these defendants are guilty is not a question of first importance, the real one being did they get a fair and impartial trial as contemplated by the bill of rights.

"It may be that neither of the foregoing reasons, is standing alone, should reverse these cases, but when considered in connection with each other, they must collectively impress the judicial mind with the conclusion that they did not get a fair and impartial trial that is required and contemplated by our Constitution."

While admitting that the trial was unfair, Chief Justice Anderson has nothing to say on the denial of the basic rights of the Negro masses and of the Scottsboro defendants in the refusal to permit Negroes to serve on juries in the South. The other justices scouted this fundamental right of the Negro masses, hypocritically declaring that the "exclusion of the Negroes from the venire" did not deprive the defendants of their rights under the Fourteenth Amendment. These justicer brazenly declared that "the State of Alabama has the right within constitutional limitations, to fix the qualifications for jurors."

In an attempt to justify the frenzied speed with which the boys were rushed to "trial" and speeded thru to death sentences, the majority opinion drew a parallel with the trial of Czolgosz for the assassination of President McKinley. Significantly seizing on the name of Victoria Price, the one of the two prostitutes who has stood up more brazenly in her boss-inspired lies that she was "raped" on the freight train by all nine of the Scottsboro boys, the majority opinion states in "justification" of its parallel with the Czolgosz case:

"But we are of the opinion that some things may happen to one worse than death, and if the evidence is o the believed one of these things happened to this defenseless woman, Victoria Price, on that

GHASTLY FRAME-UP OF NEGRO CHILDREN UPHELD:

Daily Worker

3-25-32

“TO DIE MAY 13”

Appeal Over Heads of Murderous Ruling Class! Compel Release of Framed-Up Negro Children!

Fate Rests in the Hands of the Working Class!

New York, N.Y.

The Alabama Supreme Court yesterday upheld the brutal lynch death verdicts against 7 of the eight Scottsboro Negro boys who were framed-up last March 25 on a fake “rape” charge and rushed through a farcical “trial” at Scottsboro, Ala., to death sentences. Execution of the lynch verdicts has been set for May 13. The International Labor Defense has announced its intention to carry the fight to the United States Supreme Court.

The decision of the Alabama Supreme Court upholding the lynch verdicts was announced yesterday, exactly two months after the hearing on January 21 and 22 of the arguments of Gen. George W. Chamlee, Joseph Brodsky, Irving Schwab and other defense attorneys on the appeal filed by the International Labor Defense.

In a gesture intended to deceive the masses as to the vicious role of the Alabama Supreme Court as an instrument of the ruling class for maintaining the bestial oppression of the Negro masses, the Alabama Supreme Court reversed the lynch verdict in the case of the youngest of the eight boys, Eugene Williams who was under 14 at the time of the original “trials” at Scottsboro. Eugene is remanded to the Scottsboro Court for a new trial on the grounds (raised by the ILD attorneys at the hearing of the appeal) that he was a juvenile and that the Scottsboro Court had no jurisdiction over him. The probable process will be to put him on trial before a juvenile court, and have that court declare him an incorrigible, thus facilitating his legal lynching through the adult courts.

Another gesture intended to deceive the masses is the reported dissenting of Chief Justice Anderson ni the decision upholding the lynch verdicts against the other seven children.

Theeight boys, together with 14-year-old Roy Wright in whose case a mistrial was declared at the original “trials” were arrested on March 25, 1931. They were at first charged with fighting against some white boys on the freight train on which they were traveling in a hunt for workers. When, however, it was discovered that two white hoboes on the train were girls wearing overall, the southern bosses realibed that all the elements were present for a nice lynch frame-up, and at once raised the lynch issue of “rape.”

The two girls at first denied the boys had molested them, but under pressure by State officials changed their stories. The boys were rushed to trial on April 6, a few days after their arrest without being permitted time to arrange for their defense or to notify their parents. Within 72 hours death sentences were handed out to all but Roy Wright, while a band furnished by local mill bosses played outside the court house. They were sentenced to die on July 10, but the storm of working class protest throughout the world forced the bosses to postpone the execution and to permit an appeal.

The ILD is appealing the death verdicts. It will also demand a change of venue for Eugene Williams, nad an immediate hearing in the case of Roy Wright who has been held in the jail for over a year, while awaiting a new trial. In carrying on the fight against these brutal lynch verdicts, the ILD faces a tremendous task. Workers are urged to immediately rush funds to help carry on the fight. Send money at once to the Scottsboro Defense Fund, Room 413, 80 East 11th St., N. Y. C.

Immediately upon learning of the decision of the Alabama Supreme Court, the ILD sent a telegram of protest to that court.

ill-fated journey from Stevenson, Ala., to Paintrock, Ala., on March 25, 1931.”

The “evidence” was the unsupported testimony of the two prostitutes.

The International Labor Defense and the League of Struggle for Negro Rights issued a joint call yesterday to the entire working class to rally to the task of building a tremendous mass defense to smash the lynch verdicts against these innocent working class children. Every organization and meeting of workers is urged to at once rush telegrams of protest to Gov. B. M. Miller, at Montgomery, Ala., and to the Alabama Supreme Court at Montgomery, Ala. Protest meetings should be organized at once throughout the length and breadth of the country. The anti-war meetings during the week of March 31 to April 6, nad the demonstrations on April 6, must militantly raise the question of mass defense for the Scottsboro boys.

B. D. Amis, president of the L. S. N. R. and J. Louis Engdahl, general secretary ofthe I. L.D. in a joint statement declared in part:

“The decision of the Alabama Supreme Court upholding this crude and vicious frame-up against seven innocent Negro boys will go down in history along side the Dred Scott decision of the U. S. Supreme Court in 1956, declaring that a Negro, cannot be looked upon as a human being, but is only chattel, no different from a piece of furniture.

“The decision of the Alabama justices amounts to the same thing. It proves that in the South, the Negro workers is still denied the elementary human rights which the constitution supposedly grants to all men. It proves that in these so-called ‘free’ United States, workers, and especially Negroes, are railroaded through a legal lynching machinery which is simply a somewhat more subtle and refined improvement on the ruling class procedure of hanging Negro workers from telegraph poles or burning them alive.”

ALABAMA HIGH COURT RULES NEGROES TO DIE

Friday, May 13, Set for Execution Date.

Memphis Commercial Appeal

3/25/32

MONTGOMERY, March 24.—(AP)—Another chapter in the “Scottsboro case” was closed today by the Alabama supreme court which in a six to one decision affirmed the death sentences of seven of eight negroes convicted of an attack on two girls near Paint Rock March 25, 1931.

In the case of the eighth negro, Eugene Williams, the conviction was reversed and the case remanded to the juvenile court of [illegible] County.

The negroes whose sentences of death were affirmed were:

Ozie Powell, 16, Atlanta; Andy Wright, 17, Haywood Patterson, 17, Chattanooga; [illegible] Robertson, 17, Columbus, Ga.; Olem Montgomery, 17, and Charlie Weems, 20, Monroe, Ga.

Chief Justice John C. Anderson dissented from the majority opinion and Justices Knight, Thomas, Bouldin, Brown, Gardner and Foster concurred.

Shortly after the decision was announced here, George W. Chamlee, Chattanooga, employed by the International Labor Defense, chief counsel for the negroes, announced that a motion for a rehearing would be filed at once, and if this was denied “it is our purpose to ask an appeal from that body to the United States Supreme Court.”

The state supreme court fixed Friday, May 13, as the date of execution.

The case has attracted international attention and Clarence Darrow, Chicago, and Dudley Field Malone, New York, famous criminal lawyers, for a time considered entering the case.

They withdrew however, when Chamlee and other attorneys stipulated that Darrow and Malone should join them as associates and not as counsel employed by National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The negroes were arrested at Paint Rock aboard a freight train by possemen summoned by the railway agent at Stevenson who was notified by several youths, hoboing their way that negroes had thrown them from the train.

The possemen found the two girls, Victoria Price and Ruby Bates, Huntsville, in a gondola car, and arrested the negroes.

During the trials and since, Governor Miller and the supreme court have been bombarded with pleas for the negroes, demands for their immediate release and even threats of violence.

The negroes since a short time after their conviction last April, have been held in Kilby prison here for safe keeping.

Need Funds for Scottsboro - Mooney Defense Fight

Daily Worker

27 days left before May 13, the date set by the Alabama lynch courts for the legal lynching of seven of the nine innocent Scottsboro Negro boys

4-18-32

All workers and their organizations, all sympathetic groups, are urged to hold nation-wide demonstrations against the white terror against the Negro masses. Rush protests to Governor B. M. Miller, Montgomery, Ala. Demand the immediate, unconditional release of the nine Scottsboro Negro boys!

New York, N.Y.

Rush contributions to the Scottsboro Defense Fund, Room 111, 80 East 11th Street, New York City, to enable the International Labor Defense attorneys to push the fight against the lynch verdicts to the U. S. Supreme Court.

MOONEY!

Three days remain before the date set, Tuesday, April 19, by Governor Rolph of California for a decision on the demand of the working-class for the release of Tom Mooney! Rush protests, by wire and letters, to Gov. James Rolph, Jr., Sacramento, Calif., demanding the immediate, unconditional release of Tom Mooney.

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment for Rape.

3721

Alabama

N. A. A. C. P. WITHDRAWS SUPPORT FROM ALA. BOYS

East Tennessee News

1-14-32

I. L. D. Takes Charge of Defense As Darrow And Hays Withdraw.—Chattanooga Lawyer Counsel In Chief.

NEW YORK City.—Following months of wrangling and conflicting efforts on the part of the International Labor Defense, radical Communist organization, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People with headquarters here, to save the eight Scottsboro Negro youths from the electric chair, the latter organization announced from its headquarters here Thursday its withdrawal from the defense as efforts to effect a joint defense failed.

Knoxville Tenn.

In a statement issued by the N. A. A. C. P., blame for the withdrawal of Clarence Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hays, who were retained by their organization to defend the boys, was placed upon the Communists, whom they accused of "insisting upon complete control of the legal battle and who declined co-operation with attorneys not controlled by the Communists."

At the same time the I. L. D. issued a statement that "Clarence Darrow withdrew from the Scottsboro case after refusing to co-operate with the attorneys for the I. L. D. and after demanding that these lawyers, chosen by the several boys should withdraw from the appeal." George Maurer, assistant secretary of the I. L. D., further charged that the N. A. A. C. P. "has attempted to get Darrow and Hays into the case under false pretenses, and has been saying that the I. L. D. has been ousted from the defense because the pleas of our attorney, George W. Chamlee, of Chattanooga, were 'defective' and because 'he is not an attorney of record in the case."

Conference Fails

After an all night session in Birmingham, between Chamlee and his associate counsel, retained by the I. L. D., and Darrow, Hays and the southern representatives retained by the N. A. A. C. P., no working agreement was reached. According to a statement issued by the N. A. A. C. P., Hays and Darrow were willing to enter the case on the following basis: "We represent the defendants. We represent no organization. The lives of the eight boys are at stake. It is unimportant who enlisted our interest. We will not engage in controversy between groups. We have agreed to work together to try to save these boys and our responsibility is to them and to them only." This proposal, the N. A. A. C. P. alleges was rejected by the I. L. D. attorneys.

Previously the boys had sent Darrow and Hays a telegram from Kilby prison in Montgomery, Ala., where they are confined, deprecating the entrance of the N. A. A. C. P. in the case and calling upon Darrow and Hays to co-operate with the I. L. D. attorneys.

"We have already got the International Labor Defense and jointly employed Mr. George W. Chamlee and some other lawyers who are helping Mr. Chamlee and the I. L. D.," the statement read. "We do not want you to come and fight the I. L. D., and make trouble for Mr. Chamlee just to help the N. A. A. C. P. If you want to save us and help us get a new trial, please help the I. L. D. and Mr. Chamlee. Our parents and kinfolk signed papers on yesterday from Mr. Chamlee and the I. L. D. to file in the Supreme Court that Mr. Chamlee and the I. L. D. are retained by all of us to fight our cases."

Case Up January 18

Petitions for a new trial and a change of venue will be argued Monday, January 18, before the

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TO PRESENT SCOTTSBORO APPEAL

General George W. Chamlee, noted criminal lawyer of Chattanooga, Tenn., has full sway in presenting the appeals of eight Negro youths before the Alabama supreme court next week, as the N. A. A. C. P. withdraws from the defense and allows him, as counsel retained by the I. L. D. to handle the case. The eight Negro boys are confined in the Kilby prison facing death sentences on the charge of criminally assaulting two white girls at Scottsboro.

WHY THIS WASTE?

Philadelphia, Pa.

Christian Recorder

No. 47 Vol LXXXII

2-11-32

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has just issued an audit of the funds received for defense of the Scottsboro boys. The sum of $7,058.81 was raised and up to date $7,178.63 spent and still all bills are not paid.

Our first impulse was to exclaim "O what a waste." The great agnostic who loves Negroes so much got $2,000. And then he withdrew, and did not defend the boys!

Talk about jealousies. No two Negro Churches in all history have shown as much jealousy as did the N. A. A. C. P., and the I. D. L., and the N. A. A. C. P., after getting $7,000 refused to have anything to do with the case because of the presence of the I. D. L. The defense of the boys seemed to be secondary to the prestige of the two contending bodies. And yet they talk about contentions between Negro denominations, etc!!

The statement is as follows:

Receipts:	
From N. A. A. C. P. branches	$4,604.09
From other organizations	1,744.56
From individuals	706.16
Total receipts	$7,054.81
'Expenses: For legal fees	
To Clarence Darrow	$2,000
To Stephen Roddy & Milo Moody	870
To Fort, Beddow & Ray	1,000
To A. T. Walden	40
Total Legal fees	$3,910
"For transcripts of testimony	$ 716.50
For traveling expenses of N. A. A. C. P. officials	1,604.07
For telephone and telegraph	595.34
For printing pamphlets, invitations, etc.	169.35
For postage on invitations to benefits, meetings, etc.	100.30
For advertising, magazine articles and miscellaneous expenses of the N. A. A. C. P. national office	83.07
Total expenses	$7,178.63
Excess of expenses over receipts	123.82

It is said that Mr. Darrow "will refund a part of the fee paid him because of withdrawal from the cases." If he were a Christian he would refund all to the people who gave the money with the idea that he **would defend** the boys. But the other attorneys will have additional expenses"!

College Students Plead For Negroes

Telegraph

NEW YORK, March 30 (AP)—Three Vassar college students, Riva Stocker, a senior; Evelyn Rosenthal, a junior, and Dorothy Lippincott, a sophomore, left today for Washington to plead with members of the senate to intervene in the case of seven Negroes sentenced to death at Scottsboro, Ala.

3-31-32

They will be joined in Washington by Jules Heiman, of Smith college; Florence Smith, of Wellesley, and Vera Joseph, of Barnard, and other representatives of Goucher, University of North Carolina and Swarthmore.

Macon, Ga.

The Negroes were sentenced to die after their conviction on a charge of attacking two white girls on a freight train last March.

LETTER ASSURES I. L. D.

Montgomery, Alabama
June 21, 1931

International Labor Defense
80 East 11th Street
New York City

Dear friends,

Every single one of those boys in Kilby prison is with the ILD. We talked to them for more than half an hour this afternoon and had a chance to explain to them what the ILD is doing. Every one said that now he knew the truth he was going to stick to the ILD and never sign anything for Walter White.

The boys had been worried to death by the warden not giving the boys our letters and by those NAACP people telling them all kinds of lies and showing them clippings from small town newspapers saying they were going to burn in the chair July 10. When we heard from them Walter White was coming here soon to try to get them to sign over the case to his organization we rushed right down here to clear any poison out of their brains that might make them think of doing a thing like that.

The boys told us they had never signed for Walter White and didn't expect to. Walter White is a liar if he says that we or any one of the boys wants him and his organization in this case.

Fraternally yours.

Janie Patterson
[illegible]
Ida Norris
Josephine Powell

The above letter confronted Clarence Darrow, noted criminal lawyer, when he visited Birmingham, Ala., last week to take part in the defense of the eight Negro youths charged with attacking two white girls at Scottsboro, Ala. Relatives of the youths presented this signed note to Mr. Darrow assuring him that his services as a representative of the N. A. A. C. P., was not at all desired and their desire was that Mr. Chambliss, retained by the International Labor Defense was satisfactory. As the result, the Chicago lawyer announced that he would have no part, whatsoever in the case which comes up for hearing on appeal from death sentences, before the state supreme court on January 17.

Free the Scottsboro Boys!

Daily Worker

THE Daily Worker prints today an appeal by the mothers of the nine innocent Scottsboro Negro boys calling upon their class sisters throughout the world to rally to the mass fight which alone can save and free their boys. The appeal of the mothers is accompanied by an appeal by the eight boys in the death cells at Kilby prison, Montgomery, Alabama, to the young workers of the world.

1-22-32

These appeals are highly significant. They show a clear understanding on the part of the boys and their parents of both the class nature of the Scottsboro lynch verdicts and of the importance of the mass fight of white and Negro workers, backing up and supporting the legal defense in the courts of the murderous southern ruling class.

These appeals are not directed to the Alabama Supreme Court which is now going through the hypocritical motion of hearing the appeals of the attorneys of the boys and the International Labor Defense against the lynch verdicts. The boys and their parents show that they understand the role of the courts of the white ruling class in suppressing the struggles of the Negro masses against starvation, peonage, lynching and the most barbarous suppression of the simplest elementary rights.

The Scottsboro boys and their mothers have not permitted the misleaders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to confuse them with reformist illusions of a "fair trial" and "justice" in the courts of the oppressors of the Negro masses. They know from the bitter experience of the Negro toilers the quality and nature of the justice dispensed against Negroes (and white workers, as well) by the courts of the class enemy. Their appeal is directed over the heads of the murderers of Negro workers to the Negro masses and the white and Negro workers whose power alone can save them!

New York, N.Y.

In their appeal to the working class, the Scottsboro boys and their mothers express their confidence in the League of Struggle for Negro Rights, in the International Labor Defense and in the millions of white and Negro toilers who, roused by these two organizations and the Communist Party, have rallied in mighty demonstrations and vigorous protests to the defense of these young victims of class justice and lynch terror.

The working class must greet these appeals of the boys and their mothers with a tremendous outpouring in militant demonstrations against the lynch verdicts and for the demand on the Alabama ruling class for the immediate and unconditional release of these innocent young workers.

Raise the fight against the Scottsboro lynch verdicts in every meeting of workers! In your unions and lodges and other organizations! Flood the Alabama Supreme Court with protest telegrams and resolutions demanding the release of the boys! Extend and build the fighting alliance of white and Negro workers against the lynch terror and starvation program of the capitalists!

DEFENSE BLAMES MOB HYSTERIA AT SCOTTSBORO

Appeals Court Takes Case of Boys Under Advisement.

THREATS WON'T AFFECT DECISION

N.Y. Amsterdam

Will Reverse Court if Errors Show Up.

1-30-32

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—Charges of mob domination and hysteria in the trial of the eight Scottsboro youths who were sentenced to death in April for an alleged attack upon two white hobo girls, were made by defense attorneys in arguments on their appeal, to the Alabama Supreme Court.

George W. Chamlee, Joseph Brodsky and Irving Schwab, white attorneys, of the International Labor Defense, representing the condemned youths, presented arguments for the appeal.

Due Process Denied

Mr. Brodsky asserted that due process of law had been denied in that no colored persons had been called for petit or grand jury service and that Eugene Williams, one of the boys, is less than 15 years of age.

It was pointed out by Mr. Chamlee that a change of venue should have been allowed or a new trial granted in the lower court on account of the inflamed public feeling. Only eleven days, he said, intervened between the arrest of the boys and their trial.

Evidence Insufficient

Glaring inconsistencies in the te timony of the girls, Victoria Pri and Ruby Bates, were alleged by M Schwab, who declared that t former girl performed a "marvelo feat" in remembering each of t defendants. He denied the sufficien of the evidence.

Chief Justice John C. Hanco opened the hearing with a revelat that the court had been bombar with threatening letters and reso tions regarding the case. He war that action for contempt would taken against any writers of su communications who were with the jurisdiction of the court, a served notice that "the communic ions would have no more influen than a drop of water on the ba of a duck."

SCOTTSBORO DEFENSE PREPARES APPEAL TO U. S. SUPREME COURT

Reporter

Montgomery, Ala., April 19.—Defense attorneys representing the seven Negro youths under death sentence in the Scottsboro case, filed writs here Monday asking a stay of execution for the young defendants pending an appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court.

4-23-32

The Alabama Supreme Court at a hearing Tuesday, granted the writs, and reset the date of execution to June 24, which is 90 days from the affirmation of the sentences. Counsel must file the appeal with the U. S. Supreme Court before the expiration of this 90-day period.

Birmingham, Ala.

The writs were filed by George W. Chamblee, Sr., of Chattanooga, Tenn., and Irvin Schwab, of New York, retained by the International Labor Defense to represent the boys.

"The impression has gained currency outside the state that the Scottsboro attack case is a perversion of justice. When the U. S. supreme court has acted, theirs will be the responsibility," Mr. Chamblee said.

Seeks To Remove Williams From Death Cell

Attorney Schwab applied to the State Convict Department for an order to transfer Eugene Williams, whose death sentence was reversed, from Kilby Frison to Birmingham. The department stated it was without jurisdiction in this matter and the attorney said he would apply to Judge Hawkins, who sentenced the boys, for a transfer order to bring Williams to Birmingham where Roy Wright, another juvenile in the case, has been held since last summer.

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Alabama.

3722

They Gave Their Lives for the Scottsboro Boys

Daily Worker

5-11-32

Germany

ALREADY in Germany a white worker has given his life in the world-wide mass fight to free the nine innocent Scotsboro Negro boys. The blood of this Grman worker answers the shameless lies of the N.A.A.C.P. misleaders and the socialist party when they try to convince the Negro masses that the Communists are merely trying to exploit them.

At Chamnitz, Germany 12 workers were brutally shot down by the police during the Scottsboro demonstration on May 7, International Scottsboro Day. One is reported dead, and two dying.

The death of this one worker and the serious wounding of others reveal in a tragic flash the true character of the Scottsboro Case as an issue of the oppressed and exploited evrywhere against the ruling classes and their various agents. It is an issue which every one, even the most backward and skeptical, can now see for himself as reaching beyond the United States—with demonstrations throughout Europe and Latin America, tremendous demonstrations in the Soviet Union—and proving that the Scottsboro Case is part of the world-wide struggle against the system of oppression, lynching, robbery, exploitation, police massacre.

American imperialism is responsible for the death and shooting of these workers, just as it is responsible for the attempt to legally lynch the nine innocent Scottsboro boys. The police attacks in Germany were inspired by the U. S. State Department. This is proved not only by the blody events in Chemnitz but by the fact that only a short while ago the State Department definitely formulated its policy on Scottsboro for its consults throughout the world, in conjunction with the Alabama lynchers. The freeing of the four white lynchers in Hawaii further brings out glaringly the lynchc character of the United States governmnt. The United States government stands naked and xposed as the organizer of the oppression and lynching of the Negro People!

The Scottsboro case reflects the definite class line-up on all political issues confronting the international working class in thffis period of the deepening crisis of world capitalism, of increasing mass misery and starvation.

The socialist parties which justify the war preparations of international imperialism also justify the legal lynching of the Scottsboro boys and the monstrous oppression of the Negro people.

In Hamburg, Germany, the socialist police officials prohibited Mrs. Ada Wright, mother of two of the Scottsboro boys, and J. Louis Engdahl from addressing tens of thousands of Hamburg workers demonstrating against the lynch verdicts.

The American working class and the Negro People will not forget the heroic demonstrations of working class solidarity of the German workers with the struggles of the American toilers. Our answer to these vicious attacks inspired by American imperialism against the German workers must be a tremendous intensification of the struggle against the Scottsboro lynch verdicts. The Chemnitz massacre should rouse us to still greater struggles against lynching, for Negro national liberation, against the hunger and war offensive of the capitalists.

Cementing the fighting alliance of the Negro and white toilers in the struggl against American imperialism, against the war danger, and for the defense of the Chinese People and the Soviet Union—the socialist fatherland of all the oppressed.

Against the united front of the facsists, social fascists and Negro misleaders!

Forward with the United Front of the International Working Class and the Oppressed Peoples!

Long live the heroic German working class! Long live the German revolution!

ALA. NEGROES' APPEAL TO BE FILED MONDAY

Chattanooga Times

5-22-32

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., May 21. (AP)—A petition to certiorari the Scottsboro, Ala., criminal assault cases against seven negroes to the United States supreme court from the supreme court of Alabama will be filed in Washington Monday, Walter H. Pollak, of New York, member of defense counsel, wired George W. Chamblee, chief counsel, here today.

The execution was fixed for May 13 by the Alabama supreme court, but the defense secured a stay until June 24. Due to the fact that the United States supreme court will recess within a few days, it may be necessary for one of the justices to stay the execution of the negroes until the application for a writ of certiorari can be acted upon.

SCOTTSBORO CASE AIRED IN BERLIN

Afro-American

6-4-32

NEW YORK—The United States Embassy in Berlin was heavily guarded by police detachments who anticipated demonstrations by communists who had announced such in their papers.

The demonstrations were expected to remind those in the embassy that the Reds protested the execution of the eight youths in Scottsboro, Ala.

After the police were found to be guarding the embassy, several delegations from the communist organization were sent to make formal protest to the consulate.

Muss Sang Froid Scottsboro Protester

Advertiser

5-22-32

CHICAGO, May 21.—(AP)—A negro boy was more of a martyr than he intended to be when he sat in an improvised "electric chair" at the head of a parade today.

Montgomery Ala.

The parade, in which some 3,000 persons marched as a protest against the impending execution of seven negroes convicted in the Scottsboro, Ala., case proceeded through the South Side under police escort.

The negro youth, 11 years old, seemed to enjoy his role as occupant of the electric chair atop an automobile up to a certain point. That was when someone dropped a basket of eggs on his head. It was a direct hit.

Cubans Protest Scottsboro Case

Telegraph

HAVANA, Cuba, April 17. (AP) – Thirty-six Cuban writers and journalists today cabled Governor Mille of Alabama, protesting the impending execution on May 13 of eigh Negroes charged with having attacked two white girls.

4-18-32

The text of the cable:

"The undersigned Cuban writer and journalists hereby present t you our most vehement protest fo miscarriage of justice concernin Scottsboro Negro boys, victims racial social prejudice. Their massacre would constitute a shameful breach of legal procedure and equity an outrage to humanity and civilization and a lasting blot upon the public records of Alabama."

Macon Ga.

Among the writers and newspapermen who signed the cable were: Ofelia Rodriguez Acosta, Manuel Marsal, Francisco Ichaso, Ramon Vascencelos, Rafael Suarez Solis, Ricardo Villares, Fernando Rivero and Raul Ortega.

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gh Court Gets Scottsboro Pleas

Advertiser

5-24-32

Knight To File Objections Next Friday To Review; Death Set For June 24

Montgomery. Ala.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—(AP)—The seven negroes under sentence of death for assault on two white women near Scottsboro, Ala., will know May 31 whether they must die June 24, or whether the Supreme Court will review their convictions next October.

Three cases were filed in the Supreme Court today challenging the validity of the conviction on the grounds of race prejudice, inflamed public sentiment, and failure to obtain a fair trial.

Atty. Gen. Knight, of Alabama, anticipating a move in the closing hours of court—its present term ends May 31—was present when the cases were filed, and obtained permission to file by next Friday the objections of Alabama to a review by the highest court.

He will insist the trial was fair and impartial, that no error was committed warranting a review, and that the sentence was warranted by the evidence.

It had been the intention of counsel for the negroes to file the petitions in June, and then seek a stay order from one of the justices of the Supreme Court. The proceedings today will bring a decision from the entire court.

Atty. Gen. Knight said the present stay of executions to enable the negroes to appeal to the Supreme Court exhausted all possible stays by the State, and would require the execution of the en on June 24 unless the Supreme urt or one of its justices prevented.

Austrian Reds Protest Negroes' Death Decree

Constitution

VIENNA, Austria, May 26.—(AP) Communists tried to stop the unveiling of a memorial tablet to George Washington here today by stoning automobiles in front of the American legation.

Their demonstration was quickly nipped by police, however, who arrested twenty of them, including four whose faces were blackened in symbolism of the condemned Scottsboro, Ala., negroes.

5-27-32

(Seven negroes are awaiting death in Alabama on charges of attacking white girls, having been convicted and given the extreme penalty.)

Atlanta, Ga.

One stone thrown by the demonstrators was wrapped in a black cloth on which was written, "out with seven negro boys."

The missile hit the automobile of the secretary of Gilchrist Baker Stockton, of Jacksonville, Fla., the American minister. Nobody was injured.

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7 Negroes' Loyals Using Burnt Cork

Advertiser 5-27-32

VIENNA, AUSTRIA, May 26.—(AP)—Communists tried to stop the unveiling of a memorial tablet to George Washington here today by stoning automobiles in front of the American Legation.

Their demonstration was quickly nipped by police, however, who arrested 20 of them including four whose faces were blackened in symbolism of the condemned Scottsboro, Ala., negroes.

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Montgomery Ala.

The missle hit the automobile of the secretary of Gilchrist Baker Stockton, the American minister. Nobody was injured.

The memorial tablet was unveiled on schedule, and a block of newly constructed apartment buildings was named in honor of George Washington, by way of celebrating his bicentennial.

President Miklas, of Austria, was among the notables who attended and spoke.

For the Scottsboro Defense

Nation 5-20-32

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The execution of seven of the nine Negroes involved in the Scottsboro case has been set for June 24. Having exhausted all remedies in the Alabama courts, the only course open is for them to seek relief from the United States Supreme Court. They are fortunate in having secured Walter H. Pollak, an attorney peculiarly fitted by his training in constitutional law, to act as chief counsel in presenting the case to the Supreme Court.

Vol. 134, No. 3490

The defendants have no funds of their own and the legal proceedings must necessarily be expensive. Lengthy records will now have to be printed for the first time. There will be other necessary legal disbursements and fees to be met, all of which cannot come to less than $5,000. I have been selected by the International Labor Defense as treasurer of a fund for the legal expenses, and I urge that readers of *The Nation* give all they can possibly afford so that these defendants can present their case to the United States Supreme Court.

New York

N.Y.

Please make checks payable to Joseph R. Brodsky, treasurer, and send them to me at 100 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

New York, May 5

JOSEPH R. BRODSKY

SCOTTSBORO PROTEST IN HUNGARY

Daily Worker

5-25-32

New York

Many Demonstrate Against U. S. Consulate

Mrs. Wright in Austria

Workers of Vienna, Austria, gave a tumultous reception at the railway station to Mrs. Ada Wright upon her arrival Monday from Hamburg, Germany. Mrs. Wright is the mother of two of the Scottsboro lynch verdict victims. She is touring Europe under the auspices of the German Red Aid. She will address a huge protest meeting this week in Vienna.

From Austria, Mrs. Wright will proceed to Budapest, Hungary, where workers are arranging a giant demonstration to protest against the attempts of the American ruling class to railroad the nine innocent Negro boys to the electric chair. In preparation for this demonstration, Hungarian workers demonstrated on Monday before the United States Legation in Budapest. The police, acting under the orders of American imperialism, attacked the demonstration and arrested ten young workers. Press dispatches from Europe during the past few weeks report that United States Ambassadors and Consuls have made "representations" to European governments "against the Scottsboro agitation."

* * *

BERLIN, May 24. — The German workers turned out in great masses in Hannover in a giant Scottsboro demonstration despite Nazi-Socialist hospitality, and despite the denial on the part of the socialist officials of the right of Mrs. Ada Wright, Scottsboro mother, to speak.

Mrs. Wright was even denied the privilege of attending the meeting by the socialist boss officials.

HIGH COURT RECEIVES APPEAL FOR NEGROES

5-24-32

WASHINGTON, May 23.—(AP)—The cases of the seven negroes sentenced to die for assaults on two white women near Scottsboro, Ala., were filed today in the supreme court.

Attorney-General Knight obtained permission from the court after the cases had been docketed to submit to the court on or before next Friday the opposition of Alabama to granting a review.

Atlanta Ga.

The court will upon its next opinion day, May 31, when the present term will end, announce whether the review will be granted. In case a review is granted, it will act as a stay of the execution of the negroes and the court will, upon reconvening in October, consider the case on its merits.

Should the review be denied, the negroes will be executed June 24.

Scottsboro Appeal In Printers' Hands

Advertiser

4-20-32

Advised yesterday of a dispatch from Washington, stating that counsel for the seven negroes condemned to death for assaulting two young white girls, near Scottsboro, planned to file a petition for review in the U. S. Supreme Court, Monday, and that the petition could not be presented direct to the court without the consent of the Attorney General of Alabama, Aty. Gen. Thomas E. Knight, Jr., said he would not waive any right to present the State's side of these cases, either by argument or by brief.

Montgomery

Ala

On the other hand, he added, he would be very glad to argue or present the State's side, any time in any court, but he would oppose any action to effect further stay of execution of the death sentences of the negroes, which is set for June 24. Monday will be the last day of the present term of the U. S. Supreme Court on which petitions for review in such cases can be filed, it is understood, and if filed then, the court will be able to announce on the last day of this month, whether it will grant a review.

Atty. Gen. Knight, who has emphasized the point that he will oppose any action brought to postpone execution of the sentences of death imposed on the negroes, until the October term of the Supreme Court of the United States, said he has not been officially informed of any request that he consent to waive the right to present the State's side of these cases. His only information is, he stated, that the record is in the hands of the printer; that it has not been submitted to the court, nor has the petition for ceriorari been filed on the basis of which counsel for the negroes hope to have the case reviewed by the Supreme Court.

STOP ALA. MOTHER

[illegible]

WHITE WORKER GIVES LIFE FOR SCOTTSBORO DEFENSE IN GERMANY

5-21-32

New York, N. Y., May 17, 1932 — Four white lynchers in Hawaii are freed and jailed while at Chemnitz, Germany, 12 white workers are shot, one of them cold-bloodedly murdered because they demonstrated on May 7, International Scottsboro Day, against the lynch frame-up of the nine innocent black Scottsboro boys. Against the attacks by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, that white workers do not enter the front ranks in the fight for the freedom of the nine boys, the above fact should be hurled. The Chemnitz massacre shows to what extent the imperialistic nations will go in trying to stop the fight against the system of oppression, lynching, exploitation and police massacre.

Boston

Mass

Prevents Mrs. Wright from Speaking

Another piece of high-handed treachery was committed by the socialist police officials, when they prohibited Mrs. Ada Wright from addressing tens of thousands of Hamburg workers demonstrating against the lynch verdicts. But in a half-dozen other gigantic mass meetings in Germany—in the Ruhr, in Dortmund, in Dusseldorf, in Solingen, she spoke to large crowds. She is in Europe under the auspices of the International Labor Defense.

KID SISTER OF TWO SCOTTSBORO BOYS ON TOUR MAY 21ST

Daily Worker

5-20-32

New York

Lucille Wright to Aid Fight Against Lynch Verdicts

N.Y.

NEW YORK.—Little eleven year old Lucille Wright, sister of Roy and Andy Wright—two of the nine Scottsboro boys—will start on a national youth tour starting May 21, under the auspices of the International Labor Defense National Youth Committee, speaking to audiences of Youth and children in many cities.

Lucille is known as "little pink cheecks" among her comrades, but recently, because of her militant activities for the freedom of the nine innocent Negro boys, she objects to her old nickname, and prefers to be called "little red cheecks."

Like her mother, Mrs. Ada Wright, who is speaking before great masses of workers in Europe, little Lucille will address big meetings in America, She says that the workers' children and Young Pioneers must also protest loudly against the horrible frame-up of the young Negro lads whom the Southern ruling class are attempting to legally murder on June 24.

Lucille Wright will be accompanied by Ethel Stevens of Buffalo. Ethel Stevens is a white girl who has just served three months in jail for participating in a street demonstration —demanding the release of the Scottsboro boys.

At all meetings there will be a new Scottsboro mass recitation and a Scottsboro song—words by Allan Potamkin, music by Alex North.

The International Labor Defense Pioneer section, the Young Pioneers of America wil also arrange meetings.

Lucille Wright's tour will be as follows:

New York—May 21 to 30th, incl
Philadelphia—June 1 to 5th, incl
Pittsburgh—June 5th to 8th, incl
Cleveland—June 9th to 14th, incl
Detroit—June 15th to 17th, incl
Chicago—June 18th to 24th, incl

A Scottsboro Father

Daily Worker

CLAUDE PATTERSON, the father of Haywood Paterson, one of the Scottsboro prisoners, is a typical working-class Negro of the South. All his life he has known nothing but work, privation, hunger and the contempt of his white bosses.

6-1-32

He was born on a cotton plantation in Georgia. "I never saw much money," he says. "The plantation boss don't give black men money much. We got along, Jannie and me. In July and August, though, it got very bad. That is just before cotton picking time. Then rations would get short. The plantation boss wouldn't give us much to eat. We lived on cornmeal and molasses, with maybe a little bit of fatback. Fatback is porkfat without any meat in it.

"It's hard on a man to do a big day's work, hoeing cotton, 'skinning' a mule, hiking over the furrows behind a cultivator with nothing in him but cornmeal and molasses. We never seen fruit. And sugar—sugar was always mighty precious.

"Eight years ago things got so bad I couldn't stand it no longer. So we slipped away. That's the only way a black plantation farmer can get away, is slipping away at night. Then my wife and the kids came after me to Chattanooga when I got a job."

New York, N.Y.

But Chattanooga, though it offered somewhat more food than the starvation rations of the plantation, still ground the Negro worker under an iron heel. Claude Patterson went to work in the shoe brake foundry of the nearby metal plant. He found for his family a rickety, unpainted frame house in the Negro section of the town. During the boom they got along. The streets were muddy; there were no sidewalks; the roof of the house leaked; next door was a dump; at nights the streets were dark and dangerous to travel; the whole Negro district was constantly patroled and terrorized by cops—but Claude and his family got along.

Then came the depression. Wages fell. Claude is still working at the foundry—two days a week at $2.35 a day! Out of this he is supposed to pay $3 a week for his shack. What is left goes for clothes, food, fuel, heat.

Heywood, his boy, worked on the dump pile, ran errands, did what he could to increase the family income. When Chattanooga became hopeless, he boarded a freight to look for work in Memphis. It was because on this fatal freight train two white girls were hoboing in overalls that young Heywood was framed for rape.

Out of this tragedy, however, has come a new hope in the Patterson family. They got to know the "Reds." Where always before they had met with contempt from the ruling class whites, now suddenly they met groups of Negro and white workers, working hand in hand, calling each other "Comrade!" fighting side by side against the common enemy—the boss.

Claude and Jannie Patterson have learned about the class struggle!

Lynchings-1932

Alabama

3723

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Mrs. Wright Pays Tribute to Lenin

Daily Worker 7-2[illegible]-32

Scottsboro Mother Visits Swiss Home of Lenin During European Tour

New York

Points Out That Millions Follow Leninist Teachings

By J. LOUIS ENGDAHL.

ZURICH, Switzerland (By Mail).—Coming from Basle and Schauffhausen, where she had addressed militant Scottsboro demonstrations, Mrs. Ada Wright, Scottsboro mothers, on her arrival in Zurich, first visited the spot made historic because Lenin lived here during the crucial years in the world war, 1916-1917.

The one-room apartment in which he lived is now marked by a tablet of white marble carrying an inscription as follows:

"Here lived from February 21, 1916 until April 2, 1917, LENIN, the Leader of the Russian Revolution."

"Lenin lived here during the last war and carried on his struggle against war," declared Ada Wright, "Now we are in the midst of a new war and new war preparations against which we must struggle, aided by the teachings of Leninism. It is a great inspiration to me to know that we can bring forward very successfully the struggle against war in the growing campaign for the liberation of our children in Alabama, in the struggle against the persecution of the Negro masses in the United States."

Among those who worked very closely with Lenin during the years that he lived in Switzerland is Willy Trostel, secretary of the Swiss International Red Aid (International Labor Defense), who has been speaking at all the Scottsboro demonstrations in Switzerland. He is a member of the parliament for the canton that includes Zurich.

The Scottsboro demonstrations held at Berne, Basle and Schuffhausen were the largest gatherings held in recent years in these Swiss cities, although they did not approach the magnitude nor the militancy of the Sacco-Vanzetti demonstrations of 1927. However, the Scottsboro campaign is rapidly growing in this direction, and the present tour of the Scottsboro mother is helping immersely to accelerate the struggle.

Pickens Again Aids the Lynchers

Daily Worker

By CYRIL BRIGGS

William Pickens, Field Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, declares in a syndicated article that the Scottsboro fight "has just begun." And Pickens leaves no doubt as to which side of this historic battle he and his organization are on.

7-23-32

At this critical stage in the fight for the Scottsboro boys, Pickens again joins with the white ruling class lynchers in viciously attacking the mass defense which alone has so far stopped the bloody hands of the Alabama lynch courts.

Enraged by Growing Unity of Black and White

Mr. Pickens and his white masters are devoured by a consuming rage at the spectacle of white and Negro workers joining together in angry, thunderous protests against the lynch verdicts, of the challenge of these workers to the bloody lynch courts. All over the country, the ruling class has tried to crush this mass defense movement. They have hurled their police in brutal attacks on protest demonstrations. They have used their courts to hand out savage jail sentences to white and Negro workers protesting the lynch verdicts. The Wall Street Government, through its diplomatic agents abroad, have inspired police attacks in Germany, France, England and other countries against the world-wide Scottsboro defense movement. The Hoover Hunger and War Government has attempted to disrupt the European tour of Mrs. Ada Wright, mother of two of the Scottsboro boys.

Mr. Pickens, together with Walter White, Dr. DuBois, and the leaders of the Socialist Party, support these brutal attacks on the mass defense fight. They do everything to disrupt it. The Socialist Party slanderously attacks as a "Communist racket" the world-wide mass fight to free the Scottsboro boys and smash the hideous national oppression of the Negro masses. Pickens attacks as "a lot of ignorant nuts in Detroit, Chicago and Moscow," the millions of white and Negro workers who are angrily protesting against the lynch verdicts. What is this but open and traitorous support for the lynch courts, for the frightful lynch verdicits against these innocent Negro children?

Mass Fight Stopped Executions

What is the significance of this new barrage of attacks on the Scottsboro mass defense? Let us review briefly the victories so far achieved in the fight to free the boys. Mass pressure exerted by millions of workers throughout the world three times forced the Alabama lynch courts to retreat on the dates they had set for the legal massacre of these boys. Mass pressure again forced the U. S. Supreme Court to agree to review the lynch verdicts. The case is now before that court, which has set October 10 for the hearing.

The Baltimore Afro-American, which is not a Communist paper, admits in the following sentence the tremendous effectiveness of this world-wide mass pressure:

"The Scottsboro Case is no longer the private affair of an ignorant community of prejudiced whites in a little Alabama town as it would have been had not the I.L.D. stepped in, but it is now an international issue."

Of course, it is not a question of "an ignorant community of prejudiced whites." The Scottsboro frame-up and lynch verdicts are part of a conscious policy of the capitalist rulers of this country for the suppression of the Negro masses and the perpetuation of their hideous oppression and robbery. Mr. Pickens wants to return the Scottsboro case to the status of "the private affair" of the capitalist oppressors and their courts. He snarls against the efforts of the Communists to "try the cases on the hustings"—meaning the tactic of mass protests, of mass defense, of breaking through the legality of the lynch courts, of rousing the white and Negro masses to angry protests against the frightful attempt to legally massacre these innocent boys, as hundreds of Negro workers have been legally lynched in the past.

Defends Lynchers—Attacks Communists

Pickens moreover claims that the activities of Communists in exposing the vicious Scottsboro frame-up and the national oppression of the Negroes has resulted in "unfortunate and prejudicial sentiment that has been stirred up in Alabama against the boys." This is tantamount to saying there was no prejudice against the boys before the Communists entered the case, that the lynch sentences of the original trials in the town of Scottsboro, Ala., were arrived at without prejudice—although it is a matter of record that the boys were rushed to trial without being permitted to communicate with their parents or to secure legal defense, that the trials were deliberately set for Horse Swapping Day to attract a crowd to Scottsboro, that the first of the lynch verdicts was greeted with cheers and a brass band celebration by a mob which surrounded the court house howling for the death of the boys, that the brass band was furnished by local mill bosses who, with the bourgeois press, helped to whip up lynch sentiment against the boys. From Pickens' statement it might well be assumed that the scores of Negro workers lynched annually in Alabama are lynched—without prejudice. That the frightful national oppression and landlord robbery of these masses is carried on—without prejudice.

Workers Must Build Mass Fight

The aid given the Alabama lynchers by the N. A. A. C. P. could not prevent the tremendous victories won so far by the working-class in the Scottsboro case. But these victories, great as they are, are partial victories. The boys are still in danger of legal lynching. The mass fight is more than ever necessary. And herein lies the sinister significance of the attack by Pickens on the mass fight. The N. A. A. C. P. assistant hangmen of the Negro masses can still render valuable aid to the Alabama lynchers. And this is precisely what Pickens, Walter White, Dr. DuBois and the others are about.

The workers must answer these attempts to disrupt the mass defense with a more energetic building of the mass fight which alone can free the boys. The defense of the Scottsboro boys is part of the fight against imperialist war. The increasing terror against the Negro masses, the foreign born and the working-class generally is part of the bosses preparations for war. This terror aims to crush the resistance of the toiling masses to the Hunger and War program of the bosses. Workers! Answer the terror, answer the criminal drive for war with tremendous anti-war demonstrations on August First!

FRAMING NEGRO YOUTH LEADER

Daily Worker

Ted Burton Arrested, Held 4 Days Secretly

6-6-32

NEW YORK.—Ted Burton, 19-year-old Negro worker from the South, and a member of the National Executive Committee of the Young Communist League, was jailed Saturday night in a vicious frame-up because of his activities in the Scottsboro Defense. He was located only Wednesday night by the I. L. D.

Burton accompanied Lucille Wright, 10year-old sister of Andy and Roy Wright, Scottsboro boys, frfom the South, in order to start her tour. After speaking at a Harlem rally for the Scottsboro boys Saturday night, he was trailed and followed a long distance through the city by a Negro city detective, who had apparently been instructed to "get" Burton on any charge possible.

After first attempting to charge Comrade Burton with picking his pocket, the final charge was finally plpaced against the young comrade of "attempt at house-breaking and larceny," and the comrade is now in Tombs Prison under $2,000 bond.

The International Labor Defense has engaged a lawyer, and efforts are being made to get the comrade out on bail. Workers in their meetings and organizations should protest against this frame-up, which the New York police are using in order to crush the Scottsboro Defense.

Brunswick, Ga., Ledger
Friday, June 3, 1932

A Dangerous Precedent Set By U. S. Supreme Court

STATE RIGHTS INVADED AND POWER OF STATE COURTS WEAKENED.

Again the costitutionality of state rights has been violated.

The United States Supreme Court has decided to review the evidence in the case of seven negroes, tried and convicted of the most serious offense known to a southern state—RAPE.

Without delving into the technicalities and intricaties of law which caused this supreme tribunal to review a case originatig and culminating within the confines of a single and sovergn state it cannot be denied that the court has appointed itself as a supervisor of Alabama justice.

The citizenry of this nation has no cause to doubt the integrity of Aalabama courts. The negroes were tried and convicted many months ago in the lower court. Their case was taken to the court of appeals, exsaustively examined and the conviction sustained. Then the case went to the Supreme Court— and after months of study, that body decided with the lower courts that there existed no legal reason why these negores who violated the bodies of two white girls, should not pay the price exacted by society.

The facts in the case will be recalled by those who followed sensational headlines for weeks. The nenegroes were given every protection by alert officers who eluded mob leaders. They were given a fair and orderly trial.

The evidence in this trial showed that two girls, reduced to distressing circumstances by existing financial conditions over which they had no control nor understanding, had been joined by a group of youths of their own race—all bent on one purpose, to find their way back to their homes where they might, at least, be assured of a place to sleep and a place to eat.

Enroute, near Scottsboro, Alabama, a group of nine negroes in number boarded the train. It was an open box car in which hey all found hemselves riding. The negroes, sensing the situation and realizing their superior number, charged the white boys and successfully beat them from the train. Two of the youths were injuried when they were thrown off. They courageously gave battle in defense of the girls, but were overpowered.

The banished white youths soon gave he alarm and he negroes were caught at the next station—where officers awaited them. The girls, subjected to inhuman and consecutive abuses, promptly accused and indentified their assailants. It appeared to be an open and shut case.

But their conviction gave rise to Communist activty. All over the world has gone forth this case is a basis for Communists challenge to American justice. At this moment, the mother of one of the negro youths is touring Continental Europe, making speeches in defense of her son. She is voicing fiery words of rebellion, placed in her mouth by Communistic fanaticals, fanning a fire of discontent in nations that hardly know what an American negro looks like, much less his characteristics. Who is supplying her with funds for her world tour? Is it possible that a negro family that could not afford railfare for a prodical son coul suddenly come into such wealth as would permit a tour of the world?

The negroes case has been likened unto the Sacco-Vanzetti case—an incident that caused strife almost from pole to pole.

The wide demonstration which has followed in the wake of communitstic activities in their behalf have occasioned serious concern by those who fore see the growing strength of the red rebellion. If our state courts are to be questioned in such cases, how can we hope to stem the tide of communism?

The United States Supreme Court may be perfectly legally justified in calling the state of Alabama to task for convicting these negroes—two of whom escaped the death penalty because of their age. But what moral right has any national tribunal to question the justice meted out in a case which is purely a state offense?

Young Pioneers In Connecticut Protest Scottsboro Frameup

Daily Worker

NEW HAVEN, April [illegible]—The Young Pioneers of America, District 15, announced that the following resolution had been passed and a copy sent to Chief Justice John C. Anderson, of the Supreme Court, Montgomery, Alabama:

2-5-33

"We, workers' and farmers' children of Connecticut, Southern Massachusetts and Southern Rhode Island, protest against the intention to legally murder the innocent Scottsboro boys. We pledge to support the International Labor Defense and the League of Struggle for Negro Rights in their fight to free the Scottsboro boys, and we pledge ourselves to rally working-class children, Negro and white, to back up the demand of the International Labor Defense and the League of Struggle for Negro Rights for the immediate release of these boys!"

Views Of Other Editors

Liberal Law

Courier

The Supreme Court has granted to seven Negro youths a review of the gallows sentences imposed on them by a Scottsboro, Ala., jury for alleged assault on two white women.

In this case the test of the Anglo-Saxon ideal of justice—a fair trial—was squarely posed, and the court, whatever it may decide next fall, can only be praised for deciding to consider in full the implications of Alabama's alleged outburst of racial hatred. 6-11-32

The appeal charges the defendants were held incommunicado, denied the privilege of counsel before trial, indicted while a "mob" was in the courtroom, rushed to trial, convicted on evidence since discredited and denied a change of venue from the highly-inflammed community. A band outside the courtroom, according to the appellants, played "There'll Be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight" to celebrate the verdict of death.

Pittsburgh

In two other cases involving Federal law officers' action instead of state officials, the court struck at the extension of lawlessness in the law.

Pa.

In one, the court voided the hurried action of Federal prosecutors in taking from state to Federal court the prosecution of a Federal prohibition agent for slaying a youth in a brawl.

In the other, it granted a review of the extraordinary use of the Mann Act to impose a long prison sentence upon a Chicago gangster, not because of his lawless activities, but because he and a woman with whom he had been living for three years went to Florida on a train. The case appears to stretch Federal police power and the conspiracy clause, under which both were convicted, a long way beyond the limits of common sense. — The Cleveland Press.

~~Meeting a Test~~

~~(From the Columbus, O., Citizen)~~

The Supreme Court has granted to seven Negro youths a review of the gallows sentences imposed on them by a Scottsboro, Ala., jury for alleged assault on two white women.

Courier

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Pittsburgh Pa.

Dismiss Cases of Eight Negroes

East Tennessee News.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. June 13—The cases of ten people, 8 of whom are Negroes were, dismissed on May 31 on appeal. They had been arrested in March 31st for attempting to hold a meeting protesting the Scottsboro frameups. Those who had been fined $50 and costs in city court, were John Montgomery, Richard Robinson, James Williams, Charlie Holt, Ben Morrison, Tom Montgomery, J. W. Hurston, Fred Starr, W. H. Duncan (white) and Jane Dillon (white). 6/16/32

The charge against these people was blocking the traffice—on an unpaved side street, where traffic does not pass. The fact that both Negroes and whites attended the meeting was stressed in court by the proscution in the effort to send them to jail.

MILFORD, MASS.
NEWS

JUN 11 1932

THE SOUTHERN CASE

The decision of the United States supreme court to review the conviction and death sentence of the eight Negroes convicted at Scottsboro, Ala., of assault upon two white girls signalized the closing day of its session. It is highly desirable that this case receive attention from the highest legal authority in the land, so strong are the reasons for suspecting that the final disposition of the matter in the state courts is flagrantly contrary to justice. In presenting before the supreme court the petition for review, Atty. Pollak contended that the trial judge had improperly, in view of the state of local feeling, refused to change the place of trial to another county; that the Negroes had been forced to trial without proper preparation; that the right had been denied to question the prospective jurors regarding race prejudice, and that the defendants had been denied the rights of fair trial guaranteed by the constitution. The Alabama attorney-general, opposing review by the United States supreme court, noted that the state supreme court had refused to set aside the death penalty.

It may be that if a change of venue had been granted for the trial, if the case for the defendants had been better prepared and if more care had been taken to obtain as nearly as possible an open-minded jury, the verdict and sentences would have been the same as those actually reached. The case reflects wide prejudice not only of whites against blacks but of the people of a proud sovereign state against "interference" from outside. In the efforts to aid the accused Negroes to obtain justice these prejudices were strengthened rather than lessened by the manner in which some of the efforts were advanced, and by the radical connections of some of the "interferers." The supreme court of the United States can only pass on the question of whether the legal procedure in the case of the accused Negroes was in accordance with their constitutional rights. It cannot free the Negroes directly. A new trial might not result in their acquittal.

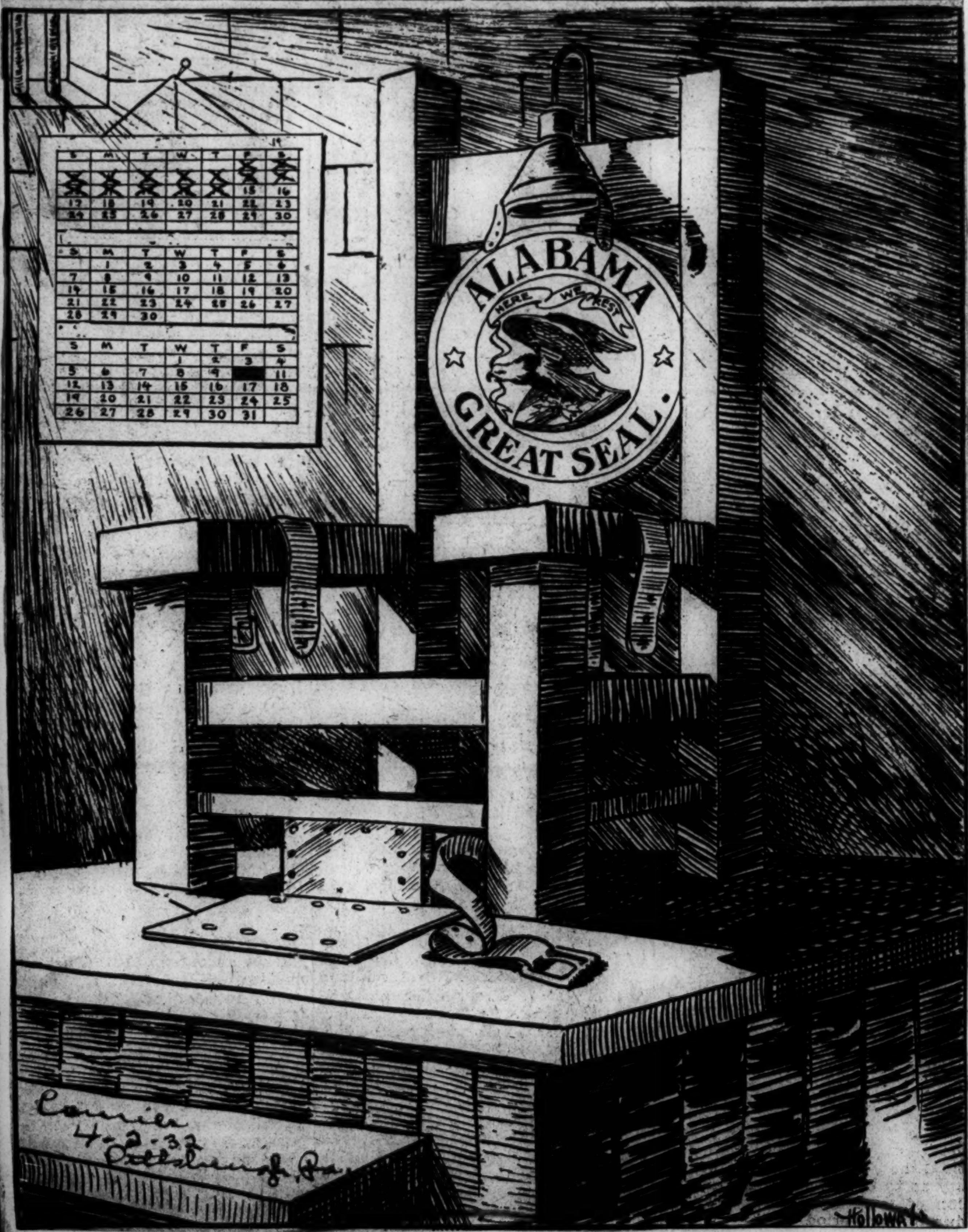
The court can, however, clarify the situation and exert its unique authority in behalf of the constitution's guarantees.

Lynchings - 1932
6
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Alabama

3724

THE IRONY OF FATE—"HERE WE REST!" By Holloway



Courier
4-2-32
Pittsburgh, Pa.

N.A.A.C.P. Rallies to Aid of Bosses in New Effort to Disrupt Scottsboro Defe

Daily Worker
3-28-32

Walter White, Ignoring 75 Lynchings in Alabama Last Year, Says He is "Shocked" By Lynch Decision of Supreme Court

While the toiling masses in all countries are rallying to the world-wide mass fight against the Scottsboro lynch verdicts and the national oppression of the Negro masses, the leaders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People yesterday renewed its attempt to disrupt hte mass defense which alone can save the boys. In a statement designed to cover up the joint responsibility of the N.A.A.C.P. with the Southern bosses for the decision of the Alabama Supreme Court, and to spread among the Negro masses the illusion of "fairness" and "impartiality" on the part of the boss courts, Walter White declared:

New York N.Y.

"The N. A. A. C. P. is terribly shocked to learn that the Alabama Supreme Court yesterday affirmed the convictions and death sentences imposed upon seven of the helpless Negro boys in a mob-dominated town."

In the same state of Alabama, two unemployed Negro workers were recently electrocuted at Kilby Prison for the theft of 50 cents. Nebro croppers were ruthlessly shot down at Camp Hill when they attempted to organize themselves against the robbery of the rich landowners. Seventy-five Negro workers were lynched last year in the period of a few months, according to the admissions of the anti-working-class, anti-Negro Fellowship of Reconciliation. And yet Mr. White pretends to be "shocked" at a decision in line with the policy of the Alabama white ruling class of brutally suppressing the Negro masses!

White then attempts to show that the decision might not have been the same had Darrow and Garfield "defended the boys." He declares:

"The N. A. A. C. P. profoundly regrets that its attorneys, the internationally famous Clarence Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hays were not enabled to take part in the defense befor the Alabama Supreme Court. We do not know whether the outcome would [illegible] been different had these attorneys appeared, but many people will feel that these famous lawyers might have achieved a different result.'

Darrow New Defending Lynchers.

Walter White neglects to explain that Darrow and Hayes turned down the request of the Scottsboro boys and their parents to co-operate with the International Labor Defense attorneys. He fails to explain that the boys and their parents resenting the consistent betrayal of their cause by the N. A. A. C. P. refused to permit the N. A. A. C. P. misleaders to have anything to do with the defense He fails to explain that "the internationally famous" Darrow is now in Hawaii defending several white Americans who cold-bloodedly lynched a Hawaiian youth. What he does explain, however, is that the N.A.A.C.P., anxious to prevent the exposure of the murderous system of Negro oppression, will not co-operate with the International Labor Defense in defense of the boys. He says:

"But the N. A. A. C. P. even yet stands ready to throw the weight of its entire legal resources into the case to aid the defendants if the defendants will permit it to act unhampered by outside interference."

"Negro and white workers! Rally to the mass fight which alone can save and free the Scottsboro boys! Organize protest demonstrations everywhere. Have your organizations and meetings send protest telegrams to the Alabama Supreme Court and to Governor B. M. Miller at Montgomery, Ala. Rush funds for the appeal to the Scottsboro Defense Fund, Room 411, 80 E. 11th St., New York City.

REHEARING ASKED IN SCOTTSBORO CASE: WILLIAMS GETS NEW TRIAL

Reporter 4-2-32
Birmingham, Ala.

Montgomery, Ala., March 24.—Holding that a fair and impartial trial was accorded seven of eight Negroes in the Scottsboro assault upon two white girls, the State Supreme Court by 6 to 1 today affirmed the verdict of the lower court and set May 13 as the date for their execution.

The verdict of the trial court was reversed and remanded for trial in the case of Eugene Williams, who defense counsel contended, was a juvenile. The court held that while affidavits submitted to prove he was a juvenile "may be false, there is nothing in this case to prove their falsity."

Chief Justice Dissents

Chief Justice John C. Anderson dissented in all cases except that of Williams.

Today's opinion, written by Justice Thomas E. Knight, Sr., with Justices Bouldin, Gardner, Brown, Thomas and Foster concurring, held that the court had not erred in denying a change of venue, as allaged by the International Labor Defense; that the speed of the trial was no ground for reversal; that the new evidence claimed was not conclusively shown and that there was no error in the record.

"If there were more speed and less delay in the administration of the criminal laws of the land," he held, "life and property would be infinitely safer and greater respect would the criminally inclined have for the law."

He further held that the speedy trial and presence of the military did not have a coersive influence on the jury, but that instead the militia "was notice to everybody that the strong arm of the State was here to assure the accused of a lawful trial."

Upholds Jury Right

The opinion held that the "exclusion of Negroes from the venire" did not deprive the defendants of their rights under the Fourteenth Amendment, declaring "the State of Alabama has the right, within constitutional limitations, to fix the qualifications for jurors."

Justice Knight referred to the trial of Czolgosz in Buffalo in 1901 for the assassination of President McKinley and cited that the trial took place within less than ten days after the murder; that the trial consumed exactly eight hours and twenty-six minutes; that less than two months later Czolgosz was executed, and that the entire nation approved.

"True," he wrote, "this Czolgosz verdict was rendered in a case where a human life had been taken in a most dastardly manner. But we are of the opinion that some things may happen to one worse than death, and if the evidence is to be believed one of these things happened to this defenseless woman, Victoria Price, on that ill-fated journey from Stevenson, Ala., to Paintrock, Ala., on March 25, 1931."

Chief Justice Anderson, in dissenting, wrote in part:

"As to whether or not these defendants are guilty is not a question of first importance, the real one being did they get a fair and impartial trial as contemplated by the bill of rights.

Holds Trial Was Unfair

"It may be that neither of the foregoing reasons, if standing alone, should reverse these cases, but when considered in connection with each other, they must collectively impress the judicial mind with the conclusion that they did not get a fair and impartial trial that is required and contemplated by our Constitution."

George W. Chamlee, chief counsel for the defendants, announced from Chattanooga today that he would immediately request a rehearing of the court, and that the International Labor Defense would ask an appeal from the Alabama Supreme Court to the United States Supreme Court.

The seven Negroes under death sentence are Oxie Powell, Atlanta; Andy Wright and Heywood Patterson, Columbus, Ga.; Olen Montgomery and Charlie Weems, Atlanta.

They were arrested at Paintrock aboard a freight train after Miss Victoria Price and Ruby Bates, Huntsville women, said the boys had attacked them.

GIRLS TO PLEAD FOR NEGROES

New York, March 29.—Young women from four leading Eastern colleges will go to Washington Wednesday to ask individual congressmen to intercede for several Negro youths under the death sentence in Scottsboro, Ala., on charges of attacking two white girls. The students are from Vassar, Smith, Wellesley and Barnard Colleges and expect to be joined at the capital by representatives of Goucher College, in Baltimore; Swarthmore College, Pa., and the University of North Carolina.

DEMONSTRATIONS IN ALL CITIES TO PROTEST AGAINST SCOTTSBORO LYNCH VERDICT

Daily Worker
3-29-32

Pittsburgh and Canadian Organizations Protest Decision of Alabama Supreme Court Upholding Scottsboro Death Sentences

New York, N.Y.

Tens of Thousands to Raise Demand April 6 for Freedom of Negro Boys

Tens of thousands of workers pouring into the streets on April 6 to demonstrate their anger against the imperialist war inciters will protest the vicious decision of the Alabama Supreme Court in upholding the lynch verdicts against 7 of the 9 innocent Scottsboro Negro children. Negro and white workers are increasingly realizing that the savage terror against the working class, directed with particular brutality against the Negro masses, is a part of the war preparations of the American ruling class and of the starvation offensive against the working class. Anti-war demonstrations already have been arranged in scores of cities for April 6. These demonstrations will all raise the demand for the release of the Scottsboro boys with demands against the imperialist war preparations, against the robber war on China, for defense of the Chinese masses and for the Soviet Union.

Protests against the lynch decision continued yesterday to pour in on the Alabama boss court lynchers. TheCanadian Labor Defense League sent the following telegram from its headquarters at Hamilton, Ontario, Canada:

"We, of the Canadian Labor Defense League, protest against the decision of the Supreme Court of your state, in that they upheld the decision of your courts to execute seven innocent Negro boys on the decision of your lower courts to execute seven innocent Negro boys on the flimsiest evidence.

"That seven workers can be executed on such evidence fills us with anger and disgust. We vigorously protest these lynch verdicts. We pledge our energetic support to the Negro and white workers of the United States carrying on a fight against this attempt to murder seven innocent working-class youths."

The Negro and white workers in the Hill Branch of the Workers' International Relief in Pittsburgh sent the following protest to Governor B. M. Miller at Montgomery, Ala.:

"Workers' International Relief in meeting today condemn the attempt to legally murder seven of the Scottsboro boys. We demand a new trial for all of the boys, with Negro and white workers on the jury, and unconditional release for these victims of class justice."

Similar protest already have been received from workers in the Soviet Union, in Germany and other distant countries.

MAIL AND WIRE CARRY SCOTTSBORO PROTESTS

Journal and Guide

I. L. D. Lawyers To Appeal To U. S. Supreme Court

4-16-32

Special to Journal and Guide

Norfolk, Va.

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—If telegraph companies may be cited for contempt of court for delivering messages to the Alabama Supreme Court, can Uncle Sam and his postal authorities be treated the same way for delivering letters to the same court?

This question is representative of many that are being asked, not only here, but nearly all over the country, since Thomas E. Knight, Jr., attorney general of Alabama threatened that the managers of the local telegraph companies would be held for contempt if they continued delivering messages criticising the Supreme Court judges for their recent decision in the Scottsboro Case.

On March 24, the highest state judicial body, with a single dissenting voice, upheld the verdict reached in May, 1931, at Scottsboro, and set Friday, May 13, as the day on which the seven youths should be electrocuted for allegedly attacking two white girls. Last Friday the Supreme Court denied a motion for a re-hearing of the case. Since March 24, therefore, a flood of telegrams have reached both Governor B. M. Miller and the judges of the Supreme Court.

Working On Appeal

Only intervention by the governor of the state or appeal to the United States Supreme Court will prevent the boys from going to their death on the day designated. Already, however, counsel for the International Labor Defense are working on the papers for an appeal to the highest tribunal in the land.

The aggressive attitude of the attorney general towards the telegraph companies has been called "strange"; it has also brought up discussion of the many implications of the threat. For the most part, nevertheless, Attorney General Knight is being credited with having made nothing more than a ridiculous statement.

"Practically all these telegrams," he said, "contain illegal, libelous, scandalous, and I might say under the peculiar circumstances, obscene matter."

The portests have caused unfavorable reactions in Alabama. At the opening of the Supreme Court hearing for a new trial in January, Chief Justice Anderson called attention to the receipt of threats by members of the court, but the action of the attorney general in respect to the telegraph companies is the first aggressive move made against the protestants.

Lynchings-1932
6
Legal Punishment for Rape.

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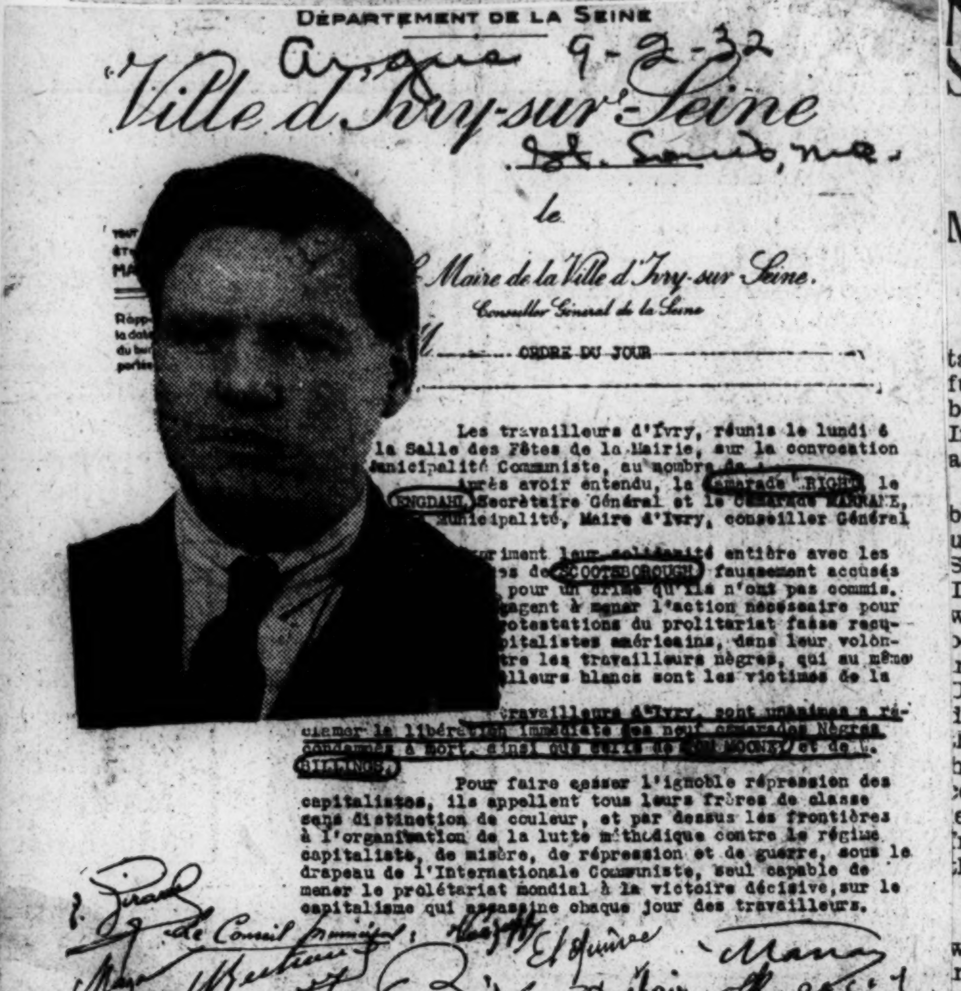
SCOTTSBORO DEFENSE IN FRANC

Argus 9-2-32
~~St. Louis~~, Mo.



DÉPARTEMENT DE LA SEINE

Ville d'Ivry-sur-Seine

le

Le Maire de la Ville d'Ivry-sur-Seine.
Conseiller Général de la Seine

ORDRE DU JOUR

Les travailleurs d'Ivry, réunis le lundi 6 la Salle des Fêtes de la Mairie, sur la convocation Municipalité Communiste, au nombre de

Après avoir entendu, la Camarade WRIGHT, le ENGDAHL, Secrètaire Général et le Camarade MARRANE, Municipalité, Maire d'Ivry, conseiller Général

…riment leur solidarité entière avec les …es de SCOOTSBOROUGH faussement accusés …, pour un crime qu'ils n'ont pas commis. …gagent à mener l'action nécessaire pour …rotestations du proliteriat fasse recu- …pitalistes américains, dans leur volon- …tre les travailleurs nègres, qui au même …lleurs blancs sont les victimes de la

…travailleurs d'Ivry, sont unanimes a ré- clamer la libération immédiate des neuf camarades Nègres condamnés à mort, ainsi que celle de TOM MOONEY et de W. BILLINGS.

Pour faire cesser l'ignoble répression des capitalistes, ils appellent tous leurs frères de classe sans distinction de couleur, et par dessus les frontières à l'organisation de la lutte méthodique contre le régime capitaliste, de misère, de répression et de guerre, sous le drapeau de l'Internationale Communiste, seul capable de mener le prolétariat mondial à la victoire décisive, sur le capitalisme qui assassine chaque jour des travailleurs.

Le Conseil Municipal;

A Communist Municipality Pledges Solidarity With Nine Negro Boys, Mooney, Billings, and Other Class War Prisoners

A pledge signed by all the members of the municipal council of the town of Ivry, France, to support the defense of the nine Scottsboro boys, Tom Mooney, and W. Billings, presented to Mrs. Ada Wright, mother of two of the boys, when she spoke in the city hall of Ivry. Superimposed on the pledge is a picture of Maurice Thorez, Ivry's representative in the French Chamber of Deputies, and secretary of the Communist Party of France. Ivry has for several years had a Communist local government.

The pledge reads:

"The workers of Ivry, gathered together in the assembly rooms of the City Hall, at the call of the Communist administration, August 6:

"After hearing addresses by Comrade Wright, Comrade Engdahl, General Secretary, and Comrade Marrane, Mayor of Ivry, who spoke on behalf of the municipal administration,

"Express their complete solidarity with the nine Scottsboro Negro boys, framed and condemned to death for a crime they did not commit;

"Pledge to add their voices to the roar of proletarian protest to force the American capitalist class to renounce their intention of murdering the Negro workers who, like the white workers, are victims of the capitalist system;

"The workers of Ivry unanimously demand the immediate release of the nine Negro boys condemned to death, and of Tom Mooney and W. Billings.

"They call on all their class brothers, without distinction of color or nationality, to fight against capitalist repression in an organized struggle against capitalism, misery, and war, under the banner of the Communist International which alone is capable of leading the workers of the world to a decisive victory against capitalism, which murders workers daily."

Alabama

FINAL APPEAL FOR INNOCENT NEGRO LADS ON OCTOBER 10

SCOTTSBORO TAG DAYS IN OCTOBER

Daily Worker

Must Raise $4,000 to Continue Fight

9-6-32
New York, N.Y.

NEW YORK, Sept. 4.—A national tag-day October 1st and 2nd to raise funds for the defense of the Scottsboro boys is being prepared by the International Labor Defense, it was announced today.

The case of the seven Scottsboro boys condemned to death will come up for final review by the United States Supreme Court October 10. This is the final court of appeal, it was pointed out, and the last chance before court to save the lives of the innocent Negro boys. Should the United States Supreme Court hand down a decision against the boys, the International Labor Defense will have carried the case to the last court of appeal, and exhausted the legal measures possible to save them from legal lynching at the hands of the capitalist courts.

$18,000 Spent

"The International Labor Defense, which has spent more than $18,000 in the Scottsboro defense, is faced with the necessity of spending further huge sums to bring the case before the U. S. Supreme Court," Carl Hacker, acting general secretary of the I. L. D. said in a statement issued today.

Scottsboro on the Radio

By J LOUIS ENGDAHL

Daily Worker
9/8/32
New York, N.Y.

HOLLAND'S radio audience is served by two broadcasting stations. One of these is V.A.R.A. (United Labor Radio Association) controlled by the Dutch Social-Democrats. It was a far cry from the Scottsboro meetings forbidden, broken up by the Socialist police in Germany, to the Socialist invitation to Mrs. Ada Wright in Holland to speak over their radio. Thus the Scottsboro appeal was broadcasted through the air for the first time in Europe.

TRY TO CLAIM CREDIT

It was clear that this maneuver of the Socialists in Holland followed closely on the heels of the lead given by the chairman of the Second Socialist International, Emile Vandervelde, in opening his arms to the Scottsboro Mother in Brussels, and his heart to the case of the Negro boys facing the electric chair. Suddenly the columns of Het Volk (The People), central organ of the Social-Democratic Party of Holland began to burst with Vandervelde publicity, as if the former Socialist premier of Belgium's King Albert had taken over the Scottsboro campaign. Het Volk featured the Scottsboro case with pictures but omitted mention entirely of the International Red Aid. In the news report of the great Amsterdam demonstration instead of using the initials "I.R.H." (International Roods Hulp), Het Volk deliberately uses the initials "I.A.H." (International Arbeiter Hilfo, the German name and not understood in Holland).

How deliberate this actually was became crystal clear with the translation of the Scottsboro Mother's appeal over the radio, when the social-democratic translater provided by the station itself and who had been given an advance copy of her speech, declared that it was the Socialists who had come to the aid of the Scottsboro Negro boys and were defending them and once more omitting all mention of the International Red Aid.

SEE MASS SUPPORT

The basis for this campaign of deception was to be found in the tremendous mass support of the Scottsboro campaign in Holland as revealed in the demonstrations held in Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Delft, the Hague, and ever in the farming districts of Friesland, in north Holland, in St. Anna Parochie, Beets and Appelscha.

The Social-Democrats had already recognized the mass influence of the International Red Aid in Holland by declaring that any social-democrat joining the International Red Aid would be expelled from the Social-Democratic Party.

In Rotterdam the police denied the workers the right to demonstrate in the streets following the great mass meeting. The possibilities of such a demonstration becomes clear, because in Amsterdam fully 10,000 workers marched through the streets to the post office building following the mass meeting in the great hall of the Diamond Exchange. The meetings at Delft and the Hague were unprecedented.

The response that swept over Friesland, the northern agricultural district of Holland, however, was a revelation. Friesland was one of the seven original free states of Holland. It is one-eleventh of the country with 400,000 population. As an independent free state it was the first to recognize the independence of the American colonies following the war of independence against Great Britain, 1776.

As an indication of its gratitude the new nation sent a tablet which still rests in the wall of the capitol of Friesland, at Loeuwerden, bearing the inscription: "Memorial of Gratitude from the United States of America to the State of Friesland for Its Recognition of the Independence of the United States, 1785."

The Scottsboro issue will be raised in the Dutch Parliament by the two Communist members, David J. Wynkoop and Louis De Visser. The parliament of Queen Wilhelmina's government, headed by the Catholic Center and its coalition of Christian parties, contains a social-democratic opposition of 26 out of 100 members. It will be forced to take an open stand on this issue.

* * *

IT is significant that many of the meetings in Holland were organized by Negro workers now living in Holland, but who had come from Surinan, the Dutch West Indian Negro colony. A native of Indonesia, the Dutch East Indian colony, also spoke at many meetings, thus bringing forward the bloody oppression of colored peoples in the colonies of Dutch imperialism.

The Scottsboro Mother's visit to Holland coincided with the wave of indignation sweeping the working class masses of the country over the police murder of the agricultural worker, John DeYonge, during a demonstration against wage reductions for agricultural workers. DeYonge was first wounded by the police and then fatally stabbed through the heart by a police saber. Out of a town of 7,000 population more than 3,000 came to the funeral, with delegations from Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Haarlem, and other cities.

SCOTTSBORO BOYS' RATIONS CUT DOWN

Afro-American

Nine Have Been Kept in Death House Over a Year.

9-24-32

Baltimore md.

NOT ALLOWED TO EXERCISE

13-Year-Old Boy to be Transferred.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., (CNA.) — Eugene Williams, 13-year-old Scottsboro defendant, is to be moved shortly from the death cell of Kilby prison to the county jail, at Bir-ingham, Ala., according to a statement made last week by Solicitor-General Bailey.

Williams has been in the death cell since the trial at Scottsboro in April, 1931. Although the Alabama Supreme Court last March reversed the decision of the lower court in the case of Williams, the boy has never been removed from the death house at Kilby Prison, in spite of demands made by the International Labor Defense, and protests from the workers.

The treatment accorded the Scottsboro victims is growing worse, according to information received here. Andy Wright has been beaten up by the guards in Kilby and put into a dark cell in solitary confinement because he resented slighting remarks about his mother.

At the same time, the food allowance for all nine boys has been cut down, and they are in a serious condition as the result of malnutrition and lack of exercise. The boys are not permitted to exercise in the yard, a privilege which is accorded all other prisoners.

George W. Chamlee, of Chattanooga, one of the attorneys of the International Labor Defense in the Scottsboro case, will go at once to Kilby Prison where eight of the Scottsboro defendants are confined, to present a formal demand that the boys be given decent food and all prison privileges.

OTTSBORO APPEAL DECISION IS NEARING

9-24-32

Supreme Court To Rule On Case Soon After Return In October

Montgomery Ala

WASHINGTON, Sept. 24.—(AP)—Soon after the U. S. Supreme Court returns early in October it is expected to decide the question of whether seven young negroes, sentenced to death at Scottsboro, Ala., for alleged assault on two white girls, received a fair trial.

Walter Pollak, New York City attorney, who represents the negroes, contends the trials were in reality a mask to screen race prejudice and animosity which made the death verdict certain. He charged that mob violence dominated the proceedings and that the constitutional rights of his clients were violated.

In turn, Thomas E. Knight, Jr., Alabama's Attorney General, points out the State Supreme Court upheld the sentence. He argues that the trials were fair and that there is no reason to overturn the judgment.

In citing precedents in his plea for a reversal of the convictions, Pollak emphasizes the case of five Arkansas negroes who were condemned to death on the charge of killing a white man during the "Elaine riots" in 1919.

The court in an opinion by Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, now retired, said passion so dominated the trial that a fair hearing for the negroes was impossible. The convictions were reversed and a new trial ordered. Justices McReynolds and Sutherland dissented.

Charged as it is with controversy, the Scottsboro case has aroused added feeling because of assertions by radical organizations and others that it is an example of race hatred and oppression, charges emphatically denied in Alabama.

Twice last year guards were assigned to the Supreme Court on reports of possible demonstrations before the dignified tribunal the court on the last day of the term announced it would review the case.

The execution, which had been set for June 24, was held up by this action until after the Court either upholds the death sentence or orders a new trial.

The negroes were charged with criminally assaulting two white girls on a freight train going from Chattanooga into Alabama on March 25, 1931.

Before the alleged assaults, there was a clash between the negroes and several white boys in which all the latter but one were thrown out of the freight car.

At Paint Rock, Ala., southwest of Scottsboro, the county seat of Jackson County, a posse met the train and took the negroes from it.

Eight of them were sentenced to death at the trial which began April 6, and ended April 8. One of these convictions, however, was reversed because of the defendant's youth. The Alabama Supreme Court upheld the death verdict imposed on the remaining seven.

None was over 21, the oldest being Haywood Patterson, of Chattanooga. Andy Wright also was from Chattanooga; Ozzie Powell, Charlie Weems, and Clarence Norris from Atlanta; William Robertson, Memphis, and Olen Montgomery, Monroe, Ga.

BRIEFS READY FOR SCOTTSCORO HEARING OCTOBER 10TH

Birmingham Ala.

Montgomery, Ala., Sept. 30.—Copies of the defense brief in the Scottsboro case, setting forth the reasons for asking a reversal of the death sentences meted out to eight Negro boys at a trial held in April 1931 at Scottsboro, Alabama, for attacking two white girls, was received Monday by State Attorney General Thomas E. Knight, Jr.

The brief was prepared by Walter Pollak, eminent lawyer of New York and representing the International Labor Defense which organization is sponsoring the defense of the boys.

Among other things the defense brief sets out that the boys could not have a fair trial because of "mob hysteria," of the crowds that jammed the court and the town of Scottsboro and the unfavorable newspaper accounts; that Negroes were barred from the trial jury because of race prejudice, and that they were not properly represented as the defense had no time for preparing the case.

Attorney General Knight said that the state's brief which will be argued when the case comes before the U. S. Court October 10 would be completed Tuesday.

Originally nine boys were tried in the case, eight were sentenced to death and a mistrial resulted in the case of the ninth. Since the trial the Alabama Supreme Court affirmed the death sentences of seven, remanding the case of the ninth boy because of his extreme youth.

BIG SCOTTSBORO MEET IN WASH'N.

Daily Worker

10-7-32

Scene of Hearing Before Supreme Court

New York N.Y.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 6.—The International Labor Defense of Washington, is calling a huge Scottsboro-Logan Circle mass meeting for 3 p. m., Sunday, October 9th at the Pythian Building, 12th and U St. N.E.

In Washington, the terror against the Negro masses has been increased. Besides being jim-crowed, segregated and oppressed by the ruling class, the Negro people are now facing a campaign of legal lynching. Six Negro boys are facing the electric chair on charges of murder because they dared to defend their rights to sit in one of the Washington Park (Logan Circle). They are being framed on the charge of killing a cop in this park.

Police Chieg, Glassford, has been refusing the ILD and other militant left-wing organizations the right to hold open air demonstrations fearing that the police frame-up will be exposed.

In Washington, the Scottsboro hearing will come up on October 10th. It is of the utmost necessity that the workers here make their mass meeting a mighty protest.

Hungarian Socialist Paper Viciously Attack Mrs. Wright, Scottsboro Defense

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Scores Attack by S. P. on Scottsboro

Daily Worker

9-21-32

New York

J. Louis Engdahl now on a European tour with Mrs. Ada Wright in behalf of the Scottsboro boys exposed the support by the Socialist Party of the hangmen of the innocent Negro lads.

Last Call for the Scottsboro Boys

New Republic

SIR: On October 10, the case of the eight Scottsboro boys sentenced to die in the electric chair on framed charges of "rape" of two girls of questionable reputation comes up for review before the United States Supreme Court. The International Labor Defense has spent up to now more than $18,000 on the case. This sum is far in excess of the funds collected for the case by the I. L. D., and yet much less than the cost of similar cases in the past.

10-12-32

With the terror against workers all over the country increasing almost geometrically month by month (an increase of 300 percent in the number of cases reported to the National Office of the I. L. D. in June over the number for May), and with the demands upon it increasing proportionately, the I. L. D. is faced with the necessity of raising $4,000 more for the Scottsboro defense before October 10. This money is necessary to ensure adequate legal protection for the boys in the Supreme Court hearing.

New York N.Y.

We are calling upon all workers and liberal-minded people in the United States to help in this emergency, by rushing contributions to the Scottsboro Defense, care of the International Labor Defense, 80 East Eleventh Street, Room 430, New York City.

CARL HACKER, Acting General Secretary,
New York City. International Labor Defense.

Lynchings-1932
6

Legal Punishment for Rape.
6

Alabama

3726

No Illusions--Widen the Fight for Scottsboro Boys

Daily Worker
10-13-32
New York, N.Y.

THE STRUGGLE for the lives of the nine innocent Negro boys in the death house at Kilby prison, Montgomery, Alabama, has reached a most crucial phase.

The forces of reaction are prepared for a titanic struggle around this issue. The presence of the armed forces of the state around the Capitol on the day the case was reviewed is evidence of their watchfulness and of their determination to utilize brute force to crush the fight for the freedom of our boys.

The driving force of Negro and white workers and sympathizers led by the Communist Party and International Labor Defense, the League of Struggle for Negro Rights and other mass organizations has smashed through the united front of reaction and brought the case into the Supreme Court.

But this is not enough! The task before us is to secure the immediate unconditional release of these nine innocent victims of capitalist justice. This is no easy task. Never has a broader united front of reaction and terror been arrayed against the working class. The courts, the armed forces of the state, the open terrorists Ku Klux Klan Shirt bands, the American Legion, the leadership of the American Federation of Labor are linked arm to arm with the leadership of the Socialist Party, the leadership of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Negro reformists of every ilk and those "delicate and sensitive souls" of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Against this organized reaction and terror, the working class must immediately develop the broadest possible united front for defense from below.

From the standpoint of law, the innocence of these boys has been conclusively established. But the real issue of the Scottsboro case is infinitely deeper than this.

* * *

THE struggle for the lives of the Scottsboro boys challenges the whole system of national oppression of the Negro masses which is symbolized by Scottsboro.

The maintenance of this system, particularly at this moment of deeping crisis, the rising liberation struggles of the Negro masses and the merging of these struggles with the struggles of the white workers as part and parcel of the struggles of the American working class as a whole, has brought about an intensification of ruling class terror against the Negro masses in an effort to smash this movement.

The hoary headed tools of the ruling class upon the Supreme Court bench are fully conscious of these tremendous political issues involved. The bosses will resort to all sorts of maneuvers in order to smash this movement and to disarm the masses in their vigilance.

Any underestimation of the tremendous importance of the political issue involved at this moment, to rely upon the "justice and impartiality" of the Supreme Court, is frought with great danger to the success of the entire struggle of the American working class.

A survey of past decisions of the Supreme Court give undeniable proof of its role as a capitalist weapon against the working class as a whole and particularly against the Negro masses.

It ruled that the child labor amendment to the constitution of the U. S. is "unconstitutional". That is, the children of the working class must be destroyed in the mills, mines and factories, to create profits for the bosses.

The Supreme Court ruled in the Coronado coal strike case, that miners can be sued for damages to property of the employers during strikes. This decision was a blow struck at union organization and strike struggles.

The Supreme Court helped to pull the switch in the murder of Sacco and Vanzetti. In spite of the evidence of the complete innocence of these two framed men, the judges refused to hear an appeal.

What, then, is the chance that mere evidence of innocence in the Scottsboro case will make the Supreme Court judges grant a new trial, which may serve to intensify the fight for their freedom.

The Supreme Court has announced that not for a month can any decision be expected. That is, **the court does not dare to speak out before elections are over.**

* * *

NO, the U. S. Supreme Court is itself part and parcel of the white bosses' lynch law decision. It is more "dignified" than the court at Scottsboro; it is more "learned"; it is more "formal". But no less than the Scottsboro Court is it a court of lynch law. It is still the same court that handed down the infamous Dred Scott decision of slavery days. It is against workers and especially against Negroes. It has behind it long years of anti-workingclass traditions. It can be made to take the boys out of the clutches of the Southern Bourbons only by mass pressure.

The fate of Scottsboro and the class war prisoners, Mooney, Berkman, Tampa Tobacco workers, and others rests in the mighty hand of labor. For a stronger, united front of struggle, for continued and wider agitation, mass meetings, demonstrations! For a united front to include socialist and A. F. L. worker. Forward to the great struggle for National liberation of the Negroes, for the fight to smash capitalist reaction.

Supreme Court Resuming Work

Advertiser
10-10-32

Scottsboro Appeal One Of Cases Coming Up For Oral Arguments Soon

Montgomery, Ala.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9.—(AP)—A good many of the cases laboriously prepared for presentation to the Supreme Court probably will be sent back where they came from tomorrow by a brief printed announcement that the court has refused to review them.

Approximately 370 suits accumulated on the docket during the Summer recess. Since court preliminaries were over last Monday, indications are that a docket overhauling is in order.

Figuratively, that is a separation of sheep and goats, the former being cases sufficiently important to be decided by the court and the latter those the justices feel were settled by the lower courts.

Monday also will see the beginning of oral argument on suits which already have been on the docket for decision. Third on the list are cases covering the plea of the seven negroes condemned to death in Scottsboro, Ala., for assaults on two white girls.

Two prohibition cases involving arguments about search and seizure precede the Scottsboro case but they are not expected to take any extended time. The Scottsboro argument may begin before tomorrow's session is over.

Following closely on the Scottsboro case is the tangle from Mississippi growing out of that State's redistricting law.

Moving swiftly, the court last Monday granted a review and oral argument will begin Wednesday. The decision probably will come in time for Mississippi to make the necessary arrangements for holding congressional elections in November, although if a lower court injunction against the law is upheld all candidates for representative will face running in the State at large.

NEW YORK TIMES

OCT 12 1932

FIGHT SCOTTSBORO CASE.

German Red Groups Bombard Our Embassy With Protests.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BERLIN, Oct. 11.—German communistic organizations continue to bombard the United States Embassy in Berlin with resolutions protesting against the proposed execution of the Scottsboro Negroes on whose behalf the so-called "American Red aides" are seeking the intervention of public opinion in Germany.

Besides petitions from local communistic organizations, the embassy in the past few days has also received petitions from other points in Germany, most of which are signed by "working men's councils." Those from Berlin are delivered by delegations of which only the leaders are permitted to enter the embassy, the others being requested to remain outside the premises, which continue to be guarded by policemen.

Mrs. Ada Wright, mother of two of the Negro boys sentenced to death, again has arrived in Berlin after a tour of the Continent, during which she and Louis Engdahl have been organizing protest movements.

Four Local White Women Among Scores Who Protest Against the Myth of Scottsboro Chivalry

Four local white women are included in the group of prominent Southern women who signed this week a protest against the myth of "Southern chivalry" used as a pretext for lynching of Negroes.

They are, Dr. Elinor Pancoast, physician; Alfaitra Le Tour and Ann Sawyer, both of the Summer School for Women Workers in Industry here, and Miss Elizabeth Gilman. Other prominent women among the signers include, Miss Clara I. Cox, High Point, N.C.; Mrs. Marcy C. Best, Winston-Salem, N.C.; Miss Mary Jordon, Summer School for Women Workers in Industry, at Norfolk, Va.; Miss Fay Hudgins, Y.W.C.A. secretary, Columbia, S.C., and Miss Lucy Randolph Mason, of Richmond, Va. general secretary of the National Consumers' League.

The committee heading up the movement includes Evelyn Scott of Tennessee, author of "The Wave" Eleanor Copenhaver, of Virginia Southern field secretary of the Y.W.C.A.; Anita Brenner, of Texas author of "Idols Behind Altars" Grace Lumpkin, of South Carolina author of the recent novel, "To Make My Bread," and Lois Macdonald, of South Carolina, instructor in Economics at New York University.

The protest in part is as follows:

"We, Southern women, protest against the use by Southern men of the excuse of the 'protection of Southern womanhood' to condone lynchings of Negroes by mobs of violent men. We protest equally when this same excuse is used to condone unfair trials and extreme sentences on those accused of attacks on white women.

"A flagrant instance of court procedure perverted in the name of chivalry is the Scottsboro case, in which eight young Negro boys were condemned to death. The record of trial and the reports of procedure both within and without the court room indicate that there was no possibility of a fair trial in this case, and that the penalties inflicted are inhuman.

"As Southern women, and as adult citizens of 20th century America, we refuse to hide any longer behind the protecting wall of prejudice and violence. We protest against the 'ideal' of 'Southern chivalry' that supposes that the honor of Southern womanhood can best be preserved by such savage and unjust actions as the trial, conviction, and contemplated electrocution of the seven young Scottsboro Negro boys."

N. Y. EVENING POST

OCT 10 1932

Supreme Court Under Guard As Scottsboro Case Comes Up

Capitol Police Re-enforced as Communist Demonstration for 7 Condemned in Attack on Girls Is Feared

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10 (AP).—Arguments on the much-argued Scottsboro case opened in the crowded chamber of the highest court today with counsel for the seven Negroes who have been condemned to death for assaults on two white women contending that they were being deprived of life and liberty without due process of law.

Police in the vicinity of the Capitol had been reinforced, in anticipation of possible Communistic demonstrations. Several members of the Alabama delegation in Congress were present in the Supreme Court Chamber. The crime in question took place near Scottsboro, Ala.

Walter H. Polla of New York, opening the oral argument for the Negroes, emphasized there was no dispute over the facts in the case, which he recited in detail.

He related the excitement in the neighborhood at the time the Negroes were arrested, saying they had been threatened with mob violence. In addition, he insisted, the defendants had been deprived of the right of counsel guaranteed by the Alabama Constitution and had been illegally convicted by a jury from which qualified Negroes had by custom been systematically excluded.

There were a number of Negroes in the audience when the argument began.

It is expected the oral argument will be concluded before the court adjourns tonight. Attorney General Thomas E. Knight Jr. will present Alabama's claim that the men received a fair trial with all their constitutional rights protected, and in support of this position will cite the decision of the State Supreme Court to that effect.

When the court last spring announced it would review the cases, extra police from the city's forces augmented the Capitol police, because of reports that Communist demonstrations would be made. None developed.

During the summer an extensive Communist propaganda by postal cards in behalf of the seven Negroes was conducted. Many thousands of printed postal cards have been received urging the court to release the men.

While no Communist demonstrations have developed at the court, last spring a number of women from Northern seminaries appeared in Washington to interest Senators in behalf of the condemned men.

The seven Negroes' appeal, charging an unfair trial, was among the first set for oral argument after the Court had overhauled its docket, sifting out of nearly 400 cases those judged worthy of review. Today's was the second session of the Court's fall term.

PARIS, Oct. 10 (AP).—Seven small delegations representing the "International Red Relief" organization visited the American Embassy today and presented petitions for the release of seven Negroes under sentence of death at Scottsboro, Ala., for an attack on two white women, and asking also that Tom Mooney be liberated from prison.

There was no demonstration or disorder, but the Embassy was guarded by a special police detail.

BERLIN, Oct. 10 (AP).—Ada Wright mother of two of the seven Negroes under sentence of death at Scottsboro Ala., was taken to a hospital today for a surgical operation.

J. Louis Engdahl, secretary of the American section of the International Red Aid, who has accompanied her on a tour to Europe in an effort to consolidate sentiment in favor of the Negroes, made arrangements for the operation.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Oct. 10 (AP).—The presence of National Guardsmen in a crowded courtroom to prevent violence is not prejudicial to a fair trial, the Arkansas Supreme Court ruled today in rejecting the appeal of a Negro from a death sentence for an assault on a thirteen-year-old white girl.

The appeal was made in behalf of Freeling Daniels, who was convicted in Miller County. He confessed, but later repudiated the confession.

Troops stood guard throughout his trial because of public indignation.

SUPREME COURT DELAYS SCOTTSBORO DECISION UNTIL AFTER ELECTIONS

Daily Worker

10-25-32

Court Adjourns Until November 7; Plays Politics With Lives of Innocent Negro Children

New York

Workers Must Answer With New Thunder of Protest; Patterson Calls for United Front Fight

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 24.—The United States Supreme Court adjourned this morning without announcing its decision on the appeal argued before it on October 10 by International Labor Defense attorneys against the hideous Scottsboro lynch verdicts, sentencing 7 innocent lads to burn in the electric chair.

The court will convene again on November 7, when it is expected it will finally announce its decision.

This means that the Supreme Court is playing politics with the lives of the seven innocent Negro boys now sitting in the death cells in Kilby Prison, Montgomery, Alabama. It means that the Supreme Court justices are afraid to make their decision known before the election, that they are afraid of the wrath of the Negro and white workers against an unfavorable decision. It means further that the Supreme Court is deliberately dragging out the case in the hope thereby of disarming the vigilance of the masses, of quieting the angry protests rising from millions of workers and intellectuals in all parts of the world against the frightful attempt to legally lynch these innocent Negro children.

The mass fight for the freedom of the Scottsboro boys must go forward on a greater scale than ever before.

• • •

INTENSIFY MASS FIGHT FOR BOYS

William L. Patterson, General Secretary of the International Labo Defense issued a statement yesterday calling upon all districts of the organization, and all groups opposed to the lynch verdicts, to intensify th mass fight for the Scottsboro boys. He declared:

"This postponement of the U. S. Supreme Court decision indicates this body of capitalist tools is determined to continue the campaign of persecution and lynch-law set in motion by the Southern bosses in their attempt to terrorize the Negro masses through the legal lynching of the Scottsboro boys. It means that the Supreme Court is afraid to render its decision, for fear it will affect the election returns. Only mass pressure can save the Scottsboro boys. The refusal of the Supreme Court to announce its decision before the election is in itself a decision—a decision against the oppressed Negro masses and the whole working class as well as against the Scottsboro victims.

"It means for the working class that the struggle for the liberation of the Scottsboro boys must be intensified, multiplied a hundred-fold, if they are to be saved from legal lynching. What has been done so far, great as it has been, is as nothing compared to what must be done.

Don't let the Scottsboro boys burn!

"Demand their immediate, unconditional release!"

Directives were at once sent out to all I. L. D. districts and affiliated organizations to intensify the mass fight. Every meeting of workers thruout the country will be attended by an I. L. D. speaker who will expose the frame-up of the Scottsboro boys and ask the adoption of a resolution demanding the unconditional release of the seven condemned boys and the two others awaiting new trials, and the release of Tom Mooney. These will be sent to the United States Supreme Court, and to Governor James Rolph Jr., of California.

House to house canvasses will be carried on as a basis for building delegations to call on the white and Negro press to demand publicity for the Scottsboro-Mooney defense activities.

MOTHER MOONEY AND NEW I. L. D. GENERAL SECRETARY.

Mrs. Mary Mooney, 84-year old mother of Tom Mooney, and William L. Patterson, well-known Negro labor leader and newly-elected general secretary of the International Labor Defense, photographed together at Washington when they attended the U. S. Supreme Court hearing on the Scottsboro case, October 10.

SEND PROTEST RESOLUTIONS

Delegations from the I. L. D. and from the branches of the League of Struggle for Negro Rights will visit all working class organizations, Negro and white, and the locals of the A. F. of L. urging them to pass resolutions addressed to the Supreme Court demanding the release of the Scottsboro boys.

All organizations are urged to secure literature on the case as well as post-card resolutions addressed to the Supreme Court.

On with the mass fight for the release of the Scottsboro boys. Answer the manouvers of the United States Supreme Court with a rising thunder of protest against the lynch verdicts, against the whole hieous system of imperialist oppression and persecution of the Negro masses.

Lynchings-1932
6

Legal Punishment for Rape.

3727 Alabama

3727

N.Y. Times Howls for Blood of Innocent Scottsboro Boys

Daily Worker

NEW YORK.—The New York Times, which has all along been sabotaging Scottsboro news under the mask of "respectability,' 'now join the Jackson Sentinel and other lynch-rabid southern sheets is openly killed last spring.

New York

The Times, of course, does not state this openly. What it does say, in an article by a special Chattanooga correspondent, W. G. Foster, is that the "publicity" and "hullabaloo" given the Scottsboro case has hindered "speeding justice;" and that because the International Labor Defense has stayed the hand of this "justice," Negroes throughout the south are "encouraged to crime."

N.Y.

2-8-32

This "special correspondent" to a paper that boasts of printing "all the news that's fit to print" still repeats at this late date the thoroughly exposed lie that the boys confessed.

The Chattanooga Times, owned by the Ochs interests that control the New York Times, has been one of the most vicious of southern papers on the Scottsboro case. It has refused to print any news favorable to the boys. On the other hand it printed in full the speech of William Dickens, Field Secretary of the N. A. A. C. P. attacking the boys and the Negro workers rallying to their defense as "ignorant." It has maintained a runnig fire of red-baiting editorials and has together with the Chattanooga News, left no stone unturned in an effort to frame George W. Chamlee, the I. L. D. attorney for the boys, so as to bar him from the Scottsboro appeal before the supreme court last January.

The Times article reads in part:

"The worst critic of the South could find no reasonable ground for criticism of the manner in which the officials (of the Scottsboro court) proceeded. Some of the Negroes confessed, some of them accused other members of the party. The procedure was regular in every way without intimidation of the jurors. And now, more than ten months after the alleged crime was committed, the state is still paying a board bill for eight men.

"The inevitable back-fire is coming in the wake of the delay; others seeing that men accused of the crime of assault attract sympathy and are able to delay punishment, are tempted.

"Last week the city (Chattanooga) was horrified by a crime of the very worst type in a small office building. A Negro accused is now in the Hamilton County jail. So far there has not been a move on the part of any one to molest him. Apparently the influence of the hullabaloo in the Scotsboro case extended to the culprit and encouraged him to the crime."

The "crime of the very worst type" involves a Negro elevator man, who, according to the story of a young white girl, seized her when she started to scream. The elevator man **says he was terrified when the girl** shrieked as the elevator started down instead of up. Without examining evidence, the newspapers of Chattanooga burst into an orgy of indignation over "another Negro rape case." Note that this writer regrets that the Negro elevator operator was not lynched or "molested"—because of the hullabaloo in the Scottsboro case."

Mass pressure in the Scottsboro case has made the South think twice before lynching Negroes, the I. L. D. points out. The organization calls upon all workers to keep their protests in the case. Funds to aid the defense should be sent to the Scottsboro Defense Fund, Room 430, 80 E 11th St., New York City.

N. A. A. C. P. MAKES REPORT IN SCOTTSBORO CASE

Reporter

NEW YORK, Feb. 10—Special.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has made public this week the audit by certified accountants of the receipts and expenditures in connection with the Scottsboro, Alabama, case.

The audit by W. C. Heaton and Company of New York City, covers the period from April 1, 1931, to December 31, 1931. In their statement the auditors say:

2-13-32

"We have audited all receipts shown by the books to have been contributed for the purpose of defending the Scottsboro cases and (with the exception of telephone and telegraph charges, which have been test checked) all recorded expenses. A small amount only was unpaid at December 31, 1931. No charges have been made for the services of executive officers or employes of the N. A. A. C. P. nor for mimeographing, stationery, etc., in connection with the Scottsboro appeals.

Birmingham
Ala.

"We have prepared and submit the attached statement which we believe correctly summarizes the receipts and expenses for the defense of the Scottsboro cases, to December 31, 1931.

"We are informed by the secretary of the association that Mr. Darrow will refund a part of the fee paid him because of his withdrawal from the cases and that there will be additional bills for attorneys' expenses, the total of which is undetermined."

MAKES AUDIT KNOWN; SPENT OVER $7,000

Call

Total Expenditures Exceeded Donations; Darrow To Refund Part of Fee

2-12-32

NEW YORK—A complete audit by certified public accountants of all sums received and expended by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in connection with the defense of the eight condemned Scottsboro Boys was made public today at the N.A.A.C.P. national office, 69 Fifth Ave.

Kansas City
Mo.

The audit by W. C. Heaton and Co. of New York City covers the period April 1, 1931 to December 31, 1931 and in their statement the auditors say:

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The Statement

Receipts:	
From N.A.A.C.P. branches	$4,604.09
From other organizations	1,744.56
From individuals	706.16
Total receipts	$7,054.81
Expenses:	
For legal fees	
To Clarence Darrow	$2,000.00
To Stephen Roddy and Milo Moody	870.00
To Fort, Beddow and Ray	1,000.00
To A. T. Walden	40.00
Total Legal fees	$3,910.00
For transcript of testimony	$716.50
For travelling expenses of NAACP officials	1,604.07
For telephone and telegraph	595.34
For printing, pamphlets, invitations, etc.	169.35
For postage on invitations to benefits, meetings, etc.	100.30
For advertising, magazine articles and miscellaneous expenses of the N.A.A.C.P. national office	83.07
Total expenses	$7,178.63
Excess of expenses over receipts	$123.82

Some Facts on the Scottsboro Case

Age

(Prepared by Milton Howard)

On March 25, 1931, three groups of Negro boys were riding through Alabama in three different sections of a 47-car freight train. Roy Wright, one of the boys, 14 years of age, reports that he saw a fight between a group of white and Negro boys several cars ahead of where he was. Then, as the train slowed down, he saw a number of white boys get off. Shortly afterward a group of Negro boys also got off.

2-13-32

Later, the train halted at Paint Rock. An armed squad of deputies took the remaining nine boys off at the point of arms. On a separate car the deputies also found two white girls dressed in overalls.

When the nine boys were arrested they were charged with hoboing. But when the two white girls were discovered on the train, the Sheriff got a new idea He tried to get the girls to accuse these nine Negro boys of having raped them. This the girls refused to do. But later, after being held in jail for some time, one of the girls, Victoria Price, made charges of rape against all nine boys. The other, Ruby Bates, still refused to identify the boys. Later, Ruby Bates also made the same charges. It is a noteworthy sidelight on the character of the girls that this is the first case known in which the "innocent victims" of a rape were thrown into jail along with their "attackers", and held their until after their convictions, though they lived but an hour's ride from Scottsboro.

New York
N.Y.

As described by Joseph North in his pamphlet, Lynching Negro Children in Southern Courts, this is what happened at the trials:

Mixed in the mob outside the courthouse is a brass band waiting for the verdict.

The boys tell a straight story. They had nothing to do with the women. In fact, only one of them had seen the women on the freight. The others did not know these two women were on the long train of more than 50 cars. The boys were on the train to go down to Memphis to find work. They were out of a job and their folks were hungry. They wanted to get work and help the family out.

The boys tell the true story, They are clearly innocent. But the jury sitting there—listening with one ear to the howling of the mob outside—had its mind made up before it came into court.

Not a single witness is called for the defense of the boys. Except themselves. The lawyer, Stephen R. Roddy, of Chattanooga, a Ku Klux Klan member, urged them to "plead guilty' saying that "maybe" he could get them off with a life sentence. The boys rightly refused. Roddy shows he doesn't like his job defending these boys.

Their testimony continues clear, unshaken. Consider what these boys are going though. Whom are they to trust? Absolutely friendless. Their own parents do not know about the trial.. The lawyer, Milo Moody, whom Judge Hawkins feebly persuaded to stay in the case, and Roddy barely make a pretense of defending the boys. Their ears are on the mob outside—and their sympathies with the mob, too. As a re lawyer does not ask the jury to acquit their clients.

The lawyers did not even clearly question the two loose women who were charging the boys with "rape." And in a couple of hours the jury went out and came back. On April 9, the entire trial was ended.

The Death Penalty

Death for Eugene Williams—13 years old.

Death for Ozie Powell—14 years old.

Death for Willie Robertson—17 years old.

Death for Olin Montgomery—17 years old.

Death for Andy Wright—18 years old.

Death for Haywood Patterson—17 years old.

Death for Clarence Norris—19 years old.

Death for Charlie Weems—20 years old.

In the case of Roy Wright, 14 years old, the jury came to a mistrial. Eleven for conviction and one for life imprisonment. The prosecuting attorney had wanted to seem "lenient". not to send ALL these children to the chair. So he had asked "only" for life imprisonment in the Alabama dungeon-hells for the 14-year old Roy Wright. But even at that eleven jurors held out for death.

On the day after the trial, April 10, an I. L. D. attorney, together with the Southern representative of the I. L. D., interviewed the boys in jail and after being retained as legal defense, at once issued notice that he would appeal for a new trial, as the boys were clearly innocent. On May 5, motions for a new trial were heard and denied by Judge Hawkins. At this hearing, George W. Chamlee, I. L. D. attorney, was present to plead for the boys. Roddy was not present. May 20 was set as the day for further hearing. On that day Judge Hawkins phoned George W. Chamlee, informing him that the hearing was postponed and set for June 5. On June 5, the I. L. D. attorneys, Chamlee and Brodsky, argued motions for a new trial. Roddy and Moody were also present at this hearing. The question of the right of defendants to select counsel was raised by the I. L. D. attorneys and by Claude Patterson, father of Haywood, who was present to demand sole recognition for the I. L. D. attorneys, but Judge Hawkins refused to make any decision on the point at that time.

The following fact is worthy of special attention: Peliminary motions for a new trial had been perfunctorily made by Roddy immediately after the convictions. These were denied. By this time, Claude Patterson, father of Haywood, one of the convicted boys, had jointly with I. L. D. retained Chamlee as attorney for his [illegible]. In examining the court record, Chamlee discovered that Judge Hawkins had neglected to sign the court order denying a new trial in the case of Haywood Patterson. Seizing upon this technical opening, Chamlee requested that the case of Haywood be reopened, and he developed one of the defendants would be unfair to the other, hence, he requested that he be permitted to make motions for a new trial in all cases. This was granted. Thus it was the quick work of the I. L. D. attorney, George W. Chamlee, former attorney general of Tenessee that secured this right. This information is in the official records of the cases.

The real significance of this legal victory lies in the fact that it afforded the attorneys for the defense the opportunity to enter into the record of the appeal of the cases to the Supreme Court, the indispensable information gained by I. L. D. investigators with regard to the character of the two girls invovled in the case and with regard to the actual frame-up against the boys.

By this time the case had become an international affair. In all parts of the wold, organizations related to the I. L. D., together with thousands of other groups and individuals, held protest meetings and sent telegrams to the Governor of Alabama. The Alabama officials became acutely aware that the eyes of the world were upon them, and that they could not proceed with these "niggers" in the traditional Southern way.

SCOTTSBORO ATTORNEY ACCEPTS N. A. A. C. P. AID

Walter Pollack, attorney for the International Labor Defense in the Scottsboro case, has accepted the invitation of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to [illegible] its files on similar cases and avail himself of the co-operation of the association's legal committee

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MOTHER TO LECTURE ON SCOTTSBORO CASE

NEW YORK, April 20.—(AP)—Ada Wright, mother of Roy and Andy Wright, two of the seven Negro boys sentenced to death at Scottsboro, Ala., sailed for Europe tonight to lecture about the case.

She will be gone about three months and will speak in the principal cities of Germany, England, Czecho-Slovakia, and other countries.

Her trip is being sponsored by the International Red Aid, a German organization affiliated with the International Labor Defense, which has been seeking to arouse public sentiment against the convictions.

Poems Seem Futile In Face of Death Says Poet After "Death Row" Visit

Journal and Guide

Langston Hughes Goes To See Eight Doomed Boys

3-6-32

By LANGSTON HUGHES

(For The Associated Negro Press)

Norfolk Va

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—In Kilby Prison, just outside of Montgomery, I talked with the eight Scottsboro boys who are waiting in the death house for the Supreme Court of Alabama to make its decision. I went to see them in company with Oscar E. Saffold, a colored citizen of Montgomery who is in charge of the Sunday services for Negroes at the state penitentiary.

The boys in the death house know Mr. Saffold, and they received us cordially. Saffold is not a minister. Besides the Bible and a short talk, he brings, whenever he can, singers or other entertainers with him on Sunday morning. He had asked me to read some of my poems to the condemned men.

The prison at Kilby is a new model prison. The general cell blocks are huge and airy, but the death house is not a large room. There are barred cells on either side of the small corridor, just big enough for two prisoners. At each end is a heavy steel door; one the entrance; the other leads to the electric chair. A guard sits there, leaning against the door to the room where men are killed.

In The Face of Death

As I read my poems, standing at one end of the corridor opposite the guard, I could not see the dark faces of those condemned to die peering at me from the narrow cells on either side. But I felt their presence. And my poems seemed futile and stupid in the face of death. I spoke about the past of our race, and how I had tried to put its glories and sorrows into poetry—but with the feeling that what I was saying meant little to men doomed never to mingle with the living world again.

They listened, very quietly. I stopped reading poems, and went down the cell rows speaking to them individually. The death house was filled with young Negroes. The Scottsboro boys, two in a cell, were the youngest among them.

I told the youngsters that the Negroes of America wanted them to be free. They sent their thanks to those who are helping them. I asked them what they needed that might be gotten for them. Some of them said they had no cigarettes. I promised to see that some would be sent at once. (Sympathetic readers may send cigarettes and magazines to the boys, addressing their package to them at Kilby Prison, Montgomery, Alabama: Andy Wright, Willie Robertson, Ollie Montgomery, Hayward Patterson, are the names of four of the boys. They will share with the others.)

Boys Not Stupid

Some papers have described the

Came Away Feeling Very Sad, Poet Declares

boys as stupid young Negroes. The seemed to me quite as intelligent a any average youths of poor familie and little schooling. Some of them were shy and embarrassed talkin to a stranger, but not stupid. The looked very young and clean in thei white trousers and shirts. And Wright was ill in his bunk, but h got up to speak to me. I told him I had seen his mother, and he was glad.

I told him that the array of fact presented to the Supreme Court certainly ought to secure for them new trial. He said "I hope so. When we went out, I said "Goodbye to Ollie Montgomery and Willie Robertson in opposite cells at the door. As we passed down a flight of steps, I looked back and saw a guard locking the great steel entrance to the death house.

Black Vs. White

The Death House: inside, all Negroes. The guard was white. At all the steel doors through which we passed to the outer world, the guards were white. I thought of the trial of Willie Peterson in Birmingham. The judge, the jury, the lawyers, all white. I remembered the prisoner, Peterson, walking thin and weak down the corridor. (He had been shot in jail by a white man.) The deputies surrounding him were all whites. The hostile faces of hundreds of white people stared at him in the court room.

The Sunday papers say he was sentenced to DEATH. Now he will go to join the other young Negroes in the death house at Kilby. Perhaps Willie Robertson, who was in a cell alone, will have Peterson for a cell mate as they wait for white justice to turn on the final current—unless some way is found to give them freedom again.

Circumstantial evidence, hysteria, lies, white people who hate Negroes, laws and proper court procedure violated, featured their trials. Then the death house at Kilby. No longer youth, life, laughter, freedom. Only fear. The steel door to the electric chair. And helpless death.

I came away feeling very sad.

CORRESPONDENCE

A Scottsboro Benefit

New Republic 5-18-32

SIR: Readers of The New Republic will remember that Walter Pollak has been retained by the International Labor Defense to carry the case of the Scottsboro Negro boys, sentenced to death, to the Supreme Court of the United States. This appeal to the highest court will, of course, cost money. To help meet this cost, a group of leading artists and musicians, most of them Negroes, will perform at a "Scottsboro Benefit Night" on May 15, 8:30 P.M., at the Rockland Palace, 280 West One Hundred and Fifty-fifth Street, New York City. New York, N.Y.

Performers include Rose McClendon, and Frank Wilson of "Porgy" and "Never No More"; Taylor Gordon, leading Negro baritone; Georgette Harvey, star of "Blackberries"; Juano Hernandez in native African dances from "Savage Rhythm"; Martha Graham in dances; Isabelle Washington, star from "Singing the Blues"; Cab Calloway and his orchestra; Margaret Larkin in songs from her "Singing Cowboy"; Alberta Hunter, popular radio artist; and others. Waldo Frank, novelist and critic; Louise Thompson, of the Congregational Education Committee; and Eugene Gordon, Negro writer of Boston, will speak. Tickets cost twenty-five, fifty and seventy-five cents.

Vol. LXXI No. 911

MELVIN P. LEVY, Secretary,
National Committee for the Defense
of Political Prisoners.

New York City.

Lynchings-1932
&
Legal Punishment for Rape

Alabama

3730

LEWISTON, IDAHO
MORNING TRIBUNE

NOV 19 1932

AFTERTHOUGHT

Before the echoes of the supreme court's decision reversing the judgments in the Scottsboro cases die completely away, it may be worth while to refer to the opportunity which cases of this character offer for radical exploitation.

The original conviction of the seven negro boys who according to the nation's highest tribunal, were deprived of their constitutional rights, has been taken up and used as a basis for demonstrations not only in Alabama but throughout the world. Negroes who probably never heard of communism ~~before have~~ had it preached to them as a result of the mistake of criminal administration by which the boys in the Scottsboro cases were sentenced to death without due process of law. Extremist agitators have used the case to worm their way into the confidence of many who might otherwise have remained in complacent contentment with the existing scheme of things.

Writing to the New York Times from Birmingham, John Temple Graves 2d declares that the people of Alabama are indignant over this employment of the case for propaganda purposes. Alabamans are perfecly willing, says Mr. Graves, to see the negroes get a new trial, but they object to having "their racial and economic problems aggravated at a time like this by communist efforts to make capital out of a case in which class war has no legitimate brief or bearing." This local resentment is easily understood, but it seems to lose sight of the main point. The main point is not the fact that radicals exploited the case, but the fact that the case offered an opportunity for such exploitation.

The chief, concern of localities which are averse to extremist demonstrations—as all localities are—should be to avoid occasions for such unhappy developments. —Baltimore Sun.

NOV 21 1932

Letters From The People

THE SCOTSBORO CASES

THE Editor of The Item:—A few days ago you had an editorial on the case of the nine Negro boys sentenced to death on a charge of assault at Scotsboro, Alabama, which case has been remanded by the United States Supreme court for retrial. These cases have attracted international attention and caused intense bitterness.

When speaking here for the Socialist party recently, I was continually heckled by Communists in regard to it. But all I care to do now, with your permission, is to call attention to one thing that to my mind conclusively proves these boys innocent of the crime charged to them, and that is this: Being a Southerner "bawn and raised," and knowing Negroes as I do, I cannot conceive of these Negro boys first getting in a fight with a group of white boys, throwing them off the train, then attacking the two girls, and then remaining on the train to be certainly arrested at the next station. I cannot conceive of that.

Further, one of the women at least was said to be a notorious street-walker, and she was the State's star witness. Clearly, if all the newspaper reports were correct, it is certain that these boys never had anything like a "fair trial," either under law or justice. Under the circumstances it would seem that the State of Alabama would itself be committing a crime to execute these boys, one of whom is said to be only 14 years old and the eldest only about 20 years. It would, besides, be providing the Communist party with as fine a group of martyrs as it could possibly wish for, though I doubt that is its purpose in this case.

COVINGTON HALL.

ROANOKE, VA.
TIMES

NOV 19 1932

THE SCOTTSBORO CASE.

The decision by the Supreme Court ordering a new trial for the seven negroes under sentence of death in Alabama turned wholly upon "due process of law." The right to it in all matters affecting life and property is guaranteed by the Constitution to the humblest citizen of the United States. Other alleged grounds of appeal were urged upon the Supreme Court, but all of them were brushed aside. Did the convicted youths have a fair trial? That was the question into which the Supreme Court looked painstakingly, assembling all the relevant facts, before it decided in the negative. The opinion was written by Mr. Justice Sutherland, who has often been called the most "reactionary" member of the Sureme Court, so that it cannot be set down to a weak sentimentalism.

Neither can it have been due to the outcry in Washington and in other cities, as well as in Moscow and by European communists, asserting that a spirit of wicked class prejudice pervades the United States, and that here no justice can be had for the poor and ignorant.—New York Times

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TUCSON, ARIZ.
ARIZONA DAILY STAR

NOV 20 1932

The Supreme Court and the Scottsboro Case

The decision of the supreme court of the United States in ordering a retrial of the six Negro boys convicted and sentenced to death in a state court in Alabama illustrates the value of the constitution and the protection it gives to the life and liberties of the people of the United States against the action of mob psychology. This instance is particularly gratifying, because it gives a happy example of how this great and majestic court can and will act to protect human beings as insignificant and friendless as six, penniless Negro boys.

The supreme court ordered a retrial on the ground that the state court violated the 14th amendment to the federal constitution, which expressly provides: "Nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." The supreme court did not pass on the guilt or innocence of these Negro boys. It simply found that these boys were being deprived of life and liberty without due process of law. In this case the lack of due process of law was proof that the boys had been denied adequate opportunity to retain counsel, and that their counsel had been appointed without opportunity to perfect a defense. The case goes back to the state court in Alabama for retrial.

The important aspect of the case now is that the boys have a fair trial, that the people of Scottsboro, Alabama, calm their passions, that the boys have opportunity to employ counsel so as to perfect their defense, and that unconcerned and unneeded interests such as Communist organizations remain out of the picture. These boys, through the National Association of Colored people, will now have competent counsel and will have a fair and impartial trial. On the other hand if certain Communist organizations attempt to intervene with threats and passionate declamations, the result will be a trial of Communism rather than of the six boys. In such a case, the average American jury is certain to find the boys guilty.

While such a trial might have all the aspects of fairness, the average jury will meet the challenge of the Communists by finding the boys guilty, simply to show its contempt and hatred of Communism. Therefore, if the Communists are sincerely interested in justice rather than in arousing racial hatred, they will remain out of the picture and allow the National Association of Colored People to provide proper and able counsel. The boys will then have a fair trial, and if innocent, stand a better chance of being acquitted.

The supreme court in this case has shown how it stands as a protection to most insignificant and helpless people in guarding their lives and liberties. It has demonstrated the value of a written, stable constitution as a protection to the lives and liberties of the people and against mob psychology. It has proven the value of precedent. In this case the same justice who wrote the decision, Justice Sutherland, only a few months previously wrote a decision declaring unconstitutional a law in Oklahoma which gave the state of Oklahoma the power to prohibit a new ice company from starting in business. Thus the very simple principle, the same precedent, the same constitution and the same court which declared a state law unconstitutional, now acts to protect six ignorant, helpless, penniless, almost friendless Negro boys.

This same bulwark acts to protect the people of the United States from other kinds of mobs and hasty and passionate action. Often in the past congress has passed popular legislation which has been declared unconstitutional. Condemnation has been heaped on the court for daring to nullify the acts of congress. Although many of such decisions have been rendered, with room for doubt, the fact that the court stands as a bulwark against legislation which might be used in some future time to deprive people of their liberties, against dictatorial powers that otherwise might be grasped and exercised, proves the need of a written constitution and a supreme court to interpret it.

Our forefathers wrote the constitution and adopted it because they had learned by bitter experience the need of a written guaranty of their liberties against the varying wills of parliaments and kings. They wrote it as a guarantee of fundamental liberties for which they struggled so hard. Without it they knew they would be at the mercy of mobs, dictatorships and passionate congresses and legislatures acting without thought of the future or the ultimate peril of their actions. They laid down certain fundamental principles of government in our constitution as a protection to individuals against the rampages of government authority they knew always would develop.

The greatest of these principles were protection of life and liberty and equality in the protection of the laws. At a time when the greater part of the world is being ruled by dictators, at a time when people in many parts of the world are being deprived of life and liberty and freedom of thought, at a time when in our own United States many intelligent men are doubtful about the ability of the people to govern themselves and are entertaining thoughts of a dictatorship for the United States, it is refreshing and encouraging to see that our highest court stands firmly on guard and does not hesitate to extend its power to protect the lives, liberties and rights of those six ignorant, penniless and almost friendless colored boys in Alabama.

No. Va. Daily
Front Royal, Va.

NOV 23 1932

THE SCOTTSBORO CASE

(New York Times)

The decision by the Supreme Court ordering a new trial for the seven negroes under sentence of death in Alabama turned wholly upon "due process of law." The right to it in all matters effecting life and property is guaranteed by the Constitution to the humblest citizen of the United States. Other alleged grounds of appeal were urged upon the Supreme Court, but all of them were brushed aside. Did the convicted youths have a fair trial? That was the question into which the Supreme Court looked painstakingly, assembling all the relevant facts, before it decided in the negative. The opinion was written by Mr. Justice Sutherland, who has often been called the most "reactionary" member of the Supreme Court, so that it cannot be set down to a weak sentimentalism.

Neither can it have been due to the outcry in Washington and in other cities, as well as in Moscow and by European communists asserting that a spirit of wicked class prejudice pervades the United States, and that here no justice can be had for the poor and ignorant.

MERIDEN, CONN.
RECORD

NOV 15 1932

Notable Supreme Court Decision

With echoes of the Sacco-Vanzetti case still heard from time to time, it is a matter for satisfaction that the decision of the federal supreme court in the Scottsboro case has made impossible such reverberations from all over the country and across the sea as resulted in the former case.

Seven Negro youths in Alabama were convicted of criminally assaulting two white girls in Alabama. The conviction was sustained by the supreme court of Alabama, but over the vigorous dissent of the chief justice of the state. Subsequently leave was asked and granted for a review of the case by the supreme court of the United States. There the denial by the Alabama courts of fundamental rights under the federal constitution was pleaded.

Specifically, it was claimed that: "(1) they were not given a fair, impartial and deliberate trial (2) they were denied the right of counsel, with the accustomed incidents of consultation and opportunity of preparation for trial; and (3) they were tried before juries from which qualified members of their own race were systematically excluded." The court, through Mr. Justice Sutherland, without considering the first and third claims, sustained the second, reversed the judgment of the Alabama court and ordered a new trial, in which the denied safeguard would have to be assured.

The reaction of the Alabama public to the supreme court decision is interesting and significant. Judging by the press there is very little disposition to protest the new trial or question the grounds upon which it was ordered.

Alabama newspapers long ago called attention to the fact that when Circuit Judge A. E. Hawkins, at the time of the original trial, assigned the entire bar of Scottsboro to defend the accused Negroes, that bar included only four lawyers, one of whom was the prosecuting attorney, while two others were already retained as special counsel for the prosecution, leaving only one elderly attorney to undertake the first defense.

They also agree that feeling ran so high among the people crowded into the courthouse and the mob outside that the interests of the accused would have been better served had there been a change in venue.

What has aroused the bitterness of the Alabama public is not the attempts by outsiders to get a fair trial for the accused boys, but the successful efforts of Communists to make capital out of the case to promote their own selfish interests.

The Alabama supreme court was stormed through the mail and telegraph with all sorts of threats and abuses. Communists rioted in front of the National Capital while the supreme court of the United States was reviewing the case.

Without waiting the decision the malcontents milled around courting trouble and spreading propaganda through the agency which the case provided.

There were undoubtedly some men and women who sincerely believed that gross injustice had been done and they sought to right a possible wrong by appealing to legal means.

It was no such thought which animated the Communists. They saw in the case spectacular material with which to spread their damnable poison among the unlettered and discontented. It provided a peg upon which they hang their propaganda making a scarecrow of alarmingly real proportions.

In the guise of friends of the young thugs Communists have terrified and intimidated the people of Alabama. The federal supreme court decision has provided a way whereby the new trial may nullify the obvious mistakes made by the officials and make impotent the raving Communists by disproving their contentions.

The Birmingham Post hopes that the new trial "will be held in a court room remote from the scene of the first," and goes on to say that "it is unfortunate that this case has been the center of so much loose talk and the basis of such widespread hate-inspiring propaganda. Every precaution should be taken so that no room is left for criticism and twisting of fact when the second trials have been completed and the verdicts pronounced. The people of no state are more anxious to have justice rendered in their courts than the people of Alabama."

The supreme court may have prevented another Sacco-Vanzetti case as far as results go. With the facts all being brought into the open and the trial being characterized by fairness and decency, the miserable and dangerous aftermath will be avoided.

It should set a precedent, not only for Alabama but for every state in the union, so that lower courts may not, through ignorance or wilfulness, provide material out of which obstructionists may make trouble.

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment for Rape

Alabama

3731

JACKSON COUNTY COULD ENDURE A CHANGE OF VENUE

Advertiser 11-16-'32 Montgomery Ala.

Jackson county would have been glad of a change of venue before the rapists in the "Scottsboro case" were tried the first time.

Undoubtedly Jackson would be happy to be spared the expense and embarrassment of a second trial.

This celebrated affair is something that was wished on Jackson county by the fates. The girls who were attacked were not residents of Jackson county. The men who attacked them were not residents of Jackson county. The crime occurred on a freight train as that train happened to be moving through Jackson county.

All that Jackson had to do with the affair was to perform its duty with dignity and take all the abuse growing out of the world-wide agitation over this case.

Jackson was put to heavy expense to try these cases, although it had no special interest in them; feeling in Jackson was no higher than in any other county at the time.

Jackson undoubtedly is hopeful that some other county will be given the privilege of trying these men—not boys—when their cases come up again.

Chattanooga, Tenn. News
Thursday, November 10, 1932

Thompson Approves Court Reversal of Scottsboro Case

The action of the United States Supreme court in reversing the Scottsboro case and granting new hearings to seven young Negroes condemned to death for allegedly attacking two white girls, was the subject of favorable comment by T. C. Thompson, chairman of the interracial relations committee, at a meeting of that group Wednesday afternoon.

Facts and figures secured by Prof. R. A. Kilburn's sociology students at the University of Chattanooga will be assembled in pamphlet form for distribution, it was decided at Wednesday's meeting.

The newspapers of Chattanooga were requested to place "Mrs." or "Miss" before the names of Negro women when their names are used. Dr. J. B. Barber, Negro pastor, asked that the matter of having police officers bare their heads when a Negro funeral procession is passing be taken up.

Rocky Mount, N. C., Telegram
Friday, November 11, 1932

What Others Say

A WELCOME DECISION

Seven Negroes condemned to die for alleged criminal assault upon two white girls who were "beating their way" on the same freight train with the Negro men in Alabama will have a new trial.

The supreme court of the United States did not pass upon the guilt or innocence of the seven condemned men nor need others accept their innocence as probable to be gratified at the action of the court.

"No one cares,," says the New York Herald Tribune, "to see the death penalty carried out where any doubt remains, and it was impossible to feel that the original trial, hastily and apparently carelessly conducted in a natural atmosphere of prejudice, had really established the defendants' guilt beyond reasonable doubt. In the broad view, a new trial can only strengthen confidence in our justice."

And, the New York Times points out the right to due process of law in all matters affecting life and property is guaranteed by the constitution to the humblest citizen of the United States. "Others alleged grounds of appeal were urged upon the supreme court, but all of them were brushed aside. Did the convicted youths have a fair trial? That was the question into which the supreme court looked pains-takingly, assembling all the relevant facts, before it decided in the negative. The opinion was written by Mr. Justice Sutherland, who has often been called the most 'reactionary' member of the supreme court, so that it cannot be set down to a weak sentimentalism."

The judges, after hearing argument decided that the Negroes had been denied their constitutional right in that they had virtually been denied the right of counsel. There were other things about the trial, and the conditions surrounding the trial, that raised grave doubts. They may be guilty or they may be innocent, but to put them to death in the fact of suspicion that they were "railroaded" to the electric chair would be to raise an issue that would concern just men everywhere.—Lynchburg News.

Rocky Mount, N. C., Telegram
Tuesday, November 8, 1932

The Court Sets A Precedent

Seven Negroes convicted in Scottsboro, Alabama, of a criminal attack upon two young white women who were hoboing on a freight train in that state are to receive another trial. Convicted in Scottsboro, their case was appealed to the Alabama Supreme Court where their conviction was upheld. Interested people provided counsel and the case was aheard by the Supreme Court of the United States. Both Alabama courts were overruled. An international interest was manifested in the final outcome of the case, and only yesterday police were forced to beat back marchers in Washington who were interested in appealing to the highest tribunal in behalf of the Negroes.

The most important factor in the case, from the standpoint of the future effect on other cases is, as Justice Butler said in dissenting, that the decision entered state fields not touched before by the Court.

Evidence offered in the trial of the young Negroes, on the basis of press reports, was not as conclusive as might have been desired. The trial was conducted in a community that was inflamed because of reports of the assault and was in a mood to lynch the suspects. Furthermore, troops were required to maintain order in the courtroom.

We feel that the interests of justice can be served best by allowing them another trial. The hot tempered feeling of the community has died away. Attorneys have had ample time to prepare the defense of the Negroes. Doubtless new evidence can be offered in the case.

This newspaper does not object to capital punishment for actual crimes of criminal assault, regardless of the race element. But it is a serious business for a state to electrocute seven men after their conviction in a court where there is a possibility that their trial was not a fair one.

However, the point in this decision is that it marks the beginning of a steady stream of cases that will be carried from State courts to the Federal Court when the States should, in virtually all cases, settle their own difficulties with offenders.

THE SCOTTSBORO DECISION

Courier 11-19-32 Pittsburgh Pa.

The Supreme Court of the United States has decided that the Scottsboro boys were unfairly tried. There will now have to be a new trial and doubtless a change of venue, and there is certainly more chance of the accused boys getting a square deal in, say, Birmingham, than in Scottsboro.

The International Labor Defense deserves great credit and deep thanks for employing able counsel and raising the funds to carry the fight for the youths right up to the highest tribunal in the land. Every informed person knew, however, that the trial and conviction of the boys was such a miscarriage of justice that no matter what organization took the case to the U. S. Supreme Court it would win.

While the I. L. D. deserves praise for employing the brilliant legal talent to fight for the boys, it deserves condemnation for staging an altogether unnecessary campaign of calumny against the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, whose service to the Negro has been so great.

The Communists, characteristically enough, seized upon this Scottsboro case as propaganda material for the advancement of their fanatical cause. They engineered all sorts of unnecessary demonstrations which, perhaps, reported well in Moscow, but did not help the Scottsboro boys one bit. The last disgraceful demonstration outside the Supreme Court in Washington was especially nonsensical and valueless. These people do not seem to realize that their maniacal disturbances will have no affect whatever on the American courts, as was demonstrated in the Sacco-Vansetti case.

The N. A. A. C. P., a far saner organization, learned years ago that the most effective method of fighting these miscarriages of justice is by quietly mobilizing brains and dollars and not prejudicing the case by seeking to intimidate the courts.

Columbus, Ga. Ledger
Wednesday, November 16, 1932

Invasion of State's Rights?

Some interesting and vital legal points are now contained in the Scottsboro case, arising out of the fact that on November 7th, the United States supreme court ordered new trials for the seven negroes condemned to death at Scottsboro, Alabama, on charges of having attacked two white girls who were riding on a freight [illegible].

[illegible]he case was appealed to the federal tribunal on [illegible] grounds, first, that the defendants were not given [illegible]ir trial; second, that they were "denied the right of counsel, with the accustomed incidents of consultation and opportunity of preparation for trial," and, third, that they "were tried before juries from which qualified members of their own race were systematically excluded."

The majority of the supreme court centered their opinion around the question whether the right of counsel had been denied, although they called attention to the fact that "it does appear that the attitude of the community was one of great hostility" and "it is perfectly apparent that the proceedings, from beginning to end, took place in an atmosphere of tense, hostile and excited public sentiment."

The court concluded that "such designation of counsel as was attempted was either so indefinite or so close upon the trial as to amount to a denial of effective and substantial aid in that regard."

The United States supreme court pointed out that "the constitution of Alabama provides that in all criminal prosecutions the accused shall enjoy the right to have the assistance of counsel and a state statute requires the court in a capital case, where the defendant is unable to employ counsel, to appoint counsel for him." When the case was appealed to the supreme court of Alabama, the majority held that these provisions had not been infringed, but the chief justice in a dissenting opinion declared that "the record indicates that the appearance (of counsel for the defendants) was rather pro forma than zealous and active."

The dissenting opinion of the federal court, written by Mr. Justice Butler and concurred in by Mr. Justice McReynolds declared that the record did not show that the defendants had been denied right of counsel "with the accustomed incidents of consultation and opportunity of preparation for trial." It also says that "the informality disclosed by the colloquy between court and counsel, which is quoted in the opinion of this court and so heavily leaned on, is not entitled to any weight."

Furthermore, the dissenting opinion declares that "if correct, the ruling that the failure of the trial court to give petitioners time and opportunity to secure counsel was denial of due process is enough, and with this the opinion should end. But the court goes on to declare that 'the failure of the trial court to make an effective appointment of counsel was likewise a denial of due process within the meaning of the Fourteenth Amendment.' This is an extension of federal authority into a field hitherto occupied exclusively by the several states. Nothing before the court calls for a consideration of the point. It was not suggested below and petitioners do not ask for its decision here. The court, without being called upon to consider it, adjudges without a hearing an important constitutional question concerning criminal procedure in state courts."

New Orleans, La. Item
Monday, November 21, 1932

Letters From The People

THE SCOTSBORO CASES

THE Editor of The Item:—A few days ago you had an editorial on the case of the nine Negro boys sentenced to death on a charge of assault at Scotsboro, Alabama, which case has been remanded by the United States Supreme court for retrial. These cases have attracted international attention and caused intense bitterness.

When speaking here for the Socialist party recently, I was continually heckled by Communists in regard to it. But all I care to do now, with your permission, is to call attention to one thing that to my mind conclusively proves these boys innocent of the crime charged to them, and that is this: Being a Southerner "bawn and raised," and knowing Negroes as I do, I cannot conceive of these Negro boys first getting in a fight with a group of white boys, throwing them off the train, then attacking the two girls, and then remaining on the train to be certainly arrested at the next station. I cannot conceive of that.

Further, one of the women at least was said to be a notorious street-walker, and she was the State's star witness. Clearly, if all the newspaper reports were correct, it is certain that these boys never had anything like a "fair trial," either under law or justice. Under the circumstances it would seem that the State of Alabama would itself be committing a crime to execute these boys, one of whom is said to be only 14 years old and the eldest only about 20 years. It would, besides, be providing the Communist party with as fine a group of martyrs as it could possibly wish for, though I doubt that is its purpose in this case.

COVINGTON HALL.

MRS. WRIGHT TO SPEAK, NEWARK

Daily Worker

Engdahl - Scottsboro Meeting, Monday

New York

12/20-32

NEWARK, N. J., Dec. 19.—Mrs. Mary Mooney and Mrs. Ada Wright, mother of two of the Scottsboro boys who accompanied J. Louis Engdahl on the successful European tour on behalf of the Scottsboro boys, will speak at the mass memorial meeting to be held in Newark at Doelger's Hall, 358 Morris Av. on Monday, Dec. 19, 8 p.m. The two youngest Scottsboro defendan's will also be present if the attempt to release them on bail is successful.

William Patterson, national secretary of the International Labor Defense, Carl Hacker, national organizer of the International Labor Defense, and Rebecca Grecht district organizer of the Communist Party, District 14, will be the other speakers on the program.

Asheville, N. C., Times
~~Saturday~~, November ~~26~~, 1932
Fri. 25

AFTERTHOUGHT
(Baltimore Sun)

Before the echoes of the Supreme Court's decision, reversing the judgments in the Scottsboro case, die completely away, it may be worth while to refer to the opportunity which cases of this character offer for radical exploitation.

The original conviction of the seven Negro boys who, according to the nation's highest tribunal, were deprived ~~of~~ their constitutional rights, has been taken up and used as a basis for demonstrations not only in Alabama but throughout the world. Negroes who probably never heard of Communism before have had it preached to them as a result of the mistake of criminal administration by which the boys in Scottsboro cases were sentenced to death without due process of law. Extremist agitators have used the case to worm their way into the confidence of many who might otherwise have remained in complacent contentment with the existing scheme of things.

Writing to the New York Times from Birmingham, John Temple Graves, 2nd., declares that the people of Alabama are indignant over this employment of the case for propaganda purposes. Alabamans are perfectly willing, says Mr. Graves, to see the Negroes get a new trial, but they object to having "their racial and economic problems aggravated at a time like this by Communist efforts to make capital out of a case in which class war has no legitiate brief or bearing." This local resentment is easily understood, but it seems to lose sight of the main point. The main point is not the fact that radicals exploited the case, but the fact that the case offered an opporunity for such exploitation.

The chief concern of localities which are averse to extremist demonstrations—as all localities are—should be to avoid occasions for such unhappy developments.

Macon, Ga. Telegraph
Tuesday, November 15, 1932

SCOTTSBORO

Alabama is not a bloodthirsty state. The state does not demand the life of any man who has not under the law, forfeited his right to live.

If the supreme court believes that these men (the Scottsboro defendants) should have another trial, Alabama will accept the inevitable with becoming grace.

Alabama wishes to wrong no man, and it does not believe that it has wronged these men.

It had thought that it did well by them, in all the circumstances.

It resents the ill repute into which its name has been forced by reckless agitators.

But if there is any reasonable doubt in disinterested, responsible minds as to the fairness of the first trial, another will be granted cheerfully.

But Alabama stands conscience-clear and unashamed before the world!—Montgomery Advertiser.

Jacksonville, Fla. Journal
Tuesday, November 22, 1932

A Blow to the Reds

The utter uselessness of the demonstrations which radical groups undertake now and then was seldom better illustrated than in the incident which attended the U. S. supreme court's recent decision granting new trials to the seven negroes from Scottsboro, Ala., who had been sentenced to death for attacking two white girls.

For some reason that was never quite clear, the Communists had made the cause of the seven men their own; and when the day came for the supreme court to hand down its decision on the case they tried to picket the court in the best ultra-radical style.

The police promptly, and properly, sent them about their business, if any; and while the reds were being ingloriously scattered, the supreme court handed down a decision giving all the condemned men new trials.

If the decision had been adverse, we would have heard a lot about capitalistic oppression and whatnot; but as it is the demonstrators are left looking more than a little silly.

Alabama

3732

Lynchings- 1932
&
Legal Punishment for Rape.

3732

Given New Lease on Life

Amsterdam News 11-9-32

THE NINE YOUNG SCOTTSBORO DEFENDANTS just after they had been taken from the freight train on which two white prostitutes charged them with rape in March of last year. Lower left, Mrs. Ada Wright, mother of 14-year-old Roy and 17-year-old Andy Wright, two of the victims; with her are her two daughters. Lower middle: A scene in Scottsboro during the trial last April, when 10,000 merrymakers cheered and sang "Happy Days Are Here Again" as the jury brought in death verdicts. Lower right: George W. Chamlee, white, of Chattanooga, chief of the International Labor Defense's staff of five lawyers who argued for a new trial for the boys before the Alabama Supreme Court.

New York

Nation
11-16-32
New York, N.Y.
Vol 135 No. 3516

THE SUPREME COURT, in setting aside the death sentences of the seven Negro boys convicted at Scottsboro, Alabama, has done honor to itself and prevented the staining of the good name of the United States by another dreadful miscarriage of justice. This does not mean that the boys are set free—only that they are to have a new trial under different circumstances from those surrounding the original one, when an atmosphere of hostility and race prejudice made a fair trial impossible. While this decision will not wholly change the opinion of multitudes that there is no chance in America for poor and friendless persons as wrongfully accused as were Sacco and Vanzetti, it should do wonders for the reputation of our American judiciary abroad. Almost nobody in the United States realizes that the Scottsboro case has become a matter of tremendous moment all over Europe and in Moscow, where excitement over this case has been only less intense than that aroused by the Sacco and Vanzetti executions. For example, sixteen hundred German literary lights, headed by Thomas Mann, signed a petition of protest, and more than one American consulate in Europe has been put almost into a state of siege because of a case of which probably not one in a hundred thousand Americans living beyond the Ohio has ever heard.

HIG[illegible] OIDS DEATH [illegible] OF SEVEN NEGROES

Constitution
11-8-32
Atlanta, Ga.

Retrial Ordered by Supreme Tribunal for Youths Convicted in Scottsboro Assault Case

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7.—(AP)—New trials for the seven negroes under sentence of death at Scottsboro, Ala., for criminal assault upon two white girls were ordered today by the supreme court, seven of whose nine members held that the defendants were denied the right of counsel.

The decision was announced shortly after police nightsticks, vigorously wielded, had repulsed a crowd of 100 radical sympathisers who were attempting to picket the court chamber in behalf of the negroes.

Capitol police halted the demonstrators near the capitol, informed them they were violating the law and ordered them to disperse. A lively scuffle followed, in which injuries were inflicted upon both police and demonstrators. Sixteen, including four women, were arrested.

Up in March.

Under today's decision the men will be retried in Alabama. At Fort Payne, in that state, Judge A. F. Hawkins, who presided at the original trial, said the case would be brought up again at the March term of the Jackson county circuit court. He predicted a change of venue would be sought.

Justice Sutherland handed down the decision. It was based on a construction of the "due process of law" clause of the 14th amendment. The majority of the court held that the negroes had in substance been denied counsel, and that this constituted an invasion of their constitutional rights.

The minority, consisting of Justices Butler and McReynolds, took a contrary view, basing their position on the decision of the Alabama supreme court, and declaring that the cases clearly demonstrated all the constitutional rights of the defendants had been protected.

While a number of grounds had been advanced in the appeals for urging a reversal, Justice Sutherland said it was necessary to consider only one, because the court had reached the decision that new trials must be ordered on the one ground that the accused had been denied the right of counsel.

Youth Emphasized.

Emphasizing the youth and illiteracy of the men, their lack of friends, and the excitement of the community, Justice Sutherland said it was highly essential that the accused, who were to be considered innocent until convicted, should have the benefit of competent counsel from the time of their arrest and arraignment through their trials.

It was the duty of the trial court to see that these rights were protected, he said. The trial judge had assigned the whole bar to defend the men, he added, and no lawyer was definitely assigned to represent them until the morning of the trial. This did not permit, he said, proper preparation of the defense.

Justice Butler, speaking also for Justice McReynolds, [illegible], insisting that from the time of their first arraignment the men had been represented by counsel who had discharged their duty. Had there been lack of opportunity for preparation for trial, he said, this counsel would have obtained a postponement, but no such motion was advanced until new counsel was engaged.

Constitution
11-8-32
Atlanta, Ga.

Demonstrators March.

In double file, the demonstrators, including a considerable number of negroes, marched toward the supreme court.

Police said that after the dispersal order, one of them hit an officer. The bluecoats quickly advanced on the crowd and most of the demonstrators retreated. A few attempted to resist, however, and were arrested.

Previously a lone policeman, Captain George Walker, had attempted to stop the marchers as they passed the senate office building. He was beaten painfully, but returned to duty after first-aid treatment. Police said he pulled his revolver, but did not use it.

Placards borne aloft by the marchers were confiscated by police.

CASES WILL COME UP IN SESSION OF MARCH

FORT PAYNE, Ala., Nov. 7.—(AP) Judge A. E. Hawkins, before whom the Scottsboro negroes were tried, today said the cases which the United States supreme court reversed today would come up at the next term of the Jackson circuit court in March, 1933.

Judge Hawkins said he had no comment to make on the decision which reversed the judgment of his court.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL KNIGHT IS SILENT ON VERDICT

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Nov. 7.—(AP) Thomas E. Knight Jr., attorney-general of Alabama, who defended the death sentences imposed on seven negroes in the Scottsboro attack case, said today he would not discuss the state's procedure until he had read the decision of the United States supreme court reversing the sentences.

"The supreme court of the United States has rendered its decision and

I have nothing to say now," Attorney-General Knight said. He said he would read the decision as quickly as possible and might have a statement to make later.

Chief Justice John Anderson, who was the lone dissenter when the Alabama supreme court affirmed the death sentences, made no comment when informed of the decision, but court attaches pointed out that the United States supreme court reversed the decision on the same grounds contained in Justice Anderson's dissenting opinion.

THREE GROUPS COMMEND SUPREME COURT DECISION

NEW YORK, Nov. 7.—(AP)—The decision of the United States supreme court granting a new trial to the seven negro defendants in the Scottsboro case was commened today in statements by officials of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the International Labor Defense and the American Civil Liberties Union.

Walter, White, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said:

"We are especially gratified in that the decision reaffirms the principle and the precedent established in a previous case, the Arkansas riot cases of 1919, carried to the supreme court by this association in which it was ruled that a trial in a court dominated by a mob is not due process of law. For a second time the highest court has ruled that men of all races are entitled to trial in a court that is free from hostility and prejudice."

Athur Garfield Hays, general counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union, said:

"Every impartial person familiar with the facts must rejoice at the decision and must accord to the communists the credit for pushing the case to the limit. Unfortunately the fight against injustice is too often left to those who do not believe in our institutions. Certainly this case shows up the respectables."

William L. Patterson, negro, national secretary of the International Labor Defense, said:

"The reversal of the decision in these cases, . . . means that we have forced the supreme court to recognize the obvious lynch-law character of the trial at Scottsboro . . . . The International Labor Defense will now press for an early retrial of the case. We will demand a change of venue from the lynch-ridden town of Scottsboro. . . .

ALLEGED GIRL VICTIM WILL TESTIFY AT TRIAL

HUNTSVILLE, Ala., Nov. 7.—(AP) Victoria Price, one of the two girls in the Scottsboro case, said late today she would appear in the trial of the seven negroes when they were retried.

The United States supreme court today reversed the Jackson county circuit court which imposed death sentences.

The girl, who is employed in a cotton mill here, said Ruby Bates, the other alleged attack victim, also would testify when the trial was called.

Numerous letters were exhibited by the girl, who said she had been asked to drop the charges, but did not reveal the identity of persons making such overtures.

SCOTTSBORO BOYS GRANTED NEW TRIAL

Afro-American
11-12-32

Communists Hold a Demonstration on the Steps of Building.

Baltimore, Md.

TWO JUDGES ARE OPPOSED TO MOVE

Counsel Appointment Biggest Issue Involved.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Death sentences imposed upon seven youths at Scottsboro, Alabama, for the alleged criminal assault of two white women were set aside by the Supreme Court, Monday, with the court ordering new trials.

The decision came an hour after a demonstration by supporters of the International Labor Defense on the Capitol Plaza, during which tear gas and clubs were used to rout the demonstrators.

The Supreme Court based its decision upon the ground that the youths were denied due process of law and the qual protection of the laws in violation of their Constitutional rights because they were denied the right of counsel, with the accustomed incidents of consultation and opportunity of preparation for trial. It did not deem it necessary to consider other points raised by their counsel.

The majority opinion was delivered by Justice George Sutherland.

Judge Dissents

Justice Pierce Butler dissented. Justice James Clark McReynolds concurred in the dissenting opinion of Justice Butler.

The youths whose death sentences were set aside, are Ozie Powell, Willie Roberson, Andy Wright, Olen Montgomery, Haywood Patterson, Charley Weems and Clarence Norris.

In the majority opinion, Justice Sutherland reviewed at length the facts and circumstances regarding the alleged crime and the trials and convictions of the youths.

Reviews Case

The youths were charged with criminally assaulting two white girls near Scottsboro, Ala., March 25, 1931. The indictment was returned against them on March 31. On the same day they were arraigned and pleaded not guilty. They were tried in three groups. Each trial was completed within a single day. The juries found them guilty and imposed the death penalty. Motions for new trials were overruled and the defendants were sentenced in accordance with the verdicts. The judgments were affirmed by the state supreme court.

On the day when the offense is said to have been committed, the defendants were on a freight train on its way through Alabama. There were also on the train a number of other colored boys, seven white boys and the two white girls. A fight took place between the colored and the white boys. The white boys, with the exception of one named Gilley, were thrown off the train. A message was sent ahead reporting the fight and asking that every colored boy be taken off the train.

Before the train reached Scottsboro. a sheriff's posse seized the defendants and two other colored boys. With the two girls they were taken to Scottsboro where they were met by a large crowd. Every step taken from then on was accompanied by soldiers.

Guilt Not Proved

"However guilty defendants, upon inquiry might prove to have been," the opinion states, "they were, until convicted, presumed to be innocent. It was the duty of the court having their cases in charge to see that they were denied no necessary incident of a fair trial."

Justice Sutherland, in his opinion, pointed out that "The record shows that immediately upon the return of the indictment, defendants were arraigned and pleaded not guilty. Apparently they were not asked whether they had, or were able to employ, counsel, or wished to have counsel appointed; or whether they had friends or relatives who might assist in that regard if communicated with.

"That it would not have been an idle ceremony to have given the defendants reasonable opportunity to communicate wit h their families and endeavor to obtain counsel is demonstrated by the fact that very soon after conviction, able counsel appeared in their behalf."

After pointing out the casual fashion in which the matter of counsel in a capital case was disposed of, Justice Sutherland continued:

No Appointment of Counsel

"It thus will be seen that until the very morning of the trial no lawyer had been named or definitely designed to represent the defendants. Prior to that time, the trial judge had 'appointed all the members of the bar' for the limited purpose of arraigning the defendants.' Whether they would represent the defendants thereafter if no counsel appeared in their behalf, was a matter of speculation only, or, as the judge indicated, of mere anticipation on the part of the court.

"Such a designation, even if made for all purposes, would, in our opinion, have fallen far short of meeting, in any sense, a requirement for the appointment of counsel. How many lawyers were members of the bar does not appear; but, in the very nature of things, whether many or few, they would not, thus collectively named, have been given that clear appreciation of responsibility or impressed with that individual sense of duty which should and naturally would accompany the appointment of a selected member of the bar, specifically named and assigned.

Prosecution Strong

"That this action of the trial judgment in respect of 'appointment of counsel was little more than an expansive gesture, imposing no substantial or definite obligation upon any one, is borne out by the fact that prior to the calling of the case for trial on April 6, a leading member of the local bar accepted employment on the side of the prosecution and actively participated in the trial. It is true that he said that before doing so he had understood Mr. Roddy would be employed as counsel for the defendants. This the lawyer in question of his own accord, frankly stated to the court; and no doubt he acted with the utmost good faith. Probably other members of the bar had a like understanding. In any event, the circumstance lends emphasis to the conclusion that during perhaps the most critical period of the proceedings against these defendants, that is to say, from the time of their arraignment until the beginning of their trial, when consultation, thoroughgoing investigation and preparation were vitally important, the defendants did not have the aid of counsel in any real sense, although they were as much entitled to such aid during that period as at the trial itself.

"Nor do we think the situation was helped by what occurred on the morning of the trial. At that time, Mr. Roddy stated to the court that he did not appear as counsel, but that he would like to appear along with counsel that the court might appoint; that he had not been given an opportunity to prepare the case; that he was not familiar with the procedure in Alabama, but merely came down as a friend of the people who were interested; that he thought the boys would be better off if he should step entirely out of the case.

Counsel Indefinite

"Mr. Moody, a member of the local bar, expressed a willingness to help Mr. Roddy in anything he could do under the circumstances. To this the court responded, 'All right, all the lawyers that will; of course I would not require a lawyer to appear if—.' And Mr Moody continued, 'I am willing to do that for him as a member of the bar; I will go ahead and help do anything I can do.' With this dubious understanding, the trial immediately proceeded. The defendants, young, illiterate, surrounded by hostile sentiment, haled back and forth under guard of soldiers, charged with an atrocious crime regarded with especial horror in the community where they were to be tried, were thus put in peril of their lives within a few moments after counsel, for the first time charged with any degree of responsibility, began to represent them.

No Investigation

"It is not enough to assume that counsel thus precipitated into the case thought there was no defense, and exercised their best judgment in proceeding to trial without preparation. Neither they nor the court could say what a prompt and thorough-going investigation might disclose as to the facts. No attempt was made to investigate. No opportunity to do so was given. Defendants were immediately hurried to trial. Chief Justice Anderson, after disclaiming any intention to criticize harshly counsel who attempted to represent defendants at the trials, said: '...the record indicates that the appearance was rather pro forma than zealous and active . . .' Under the circumstances disclosed, we hold that defendants were not accorded the right of counsel in any substantial sense. To decide otherwise would simply be to ignore actualities."

Quotes Old Law

The opinion reviews at length the rule of the English common law which denied the aid of counsel to a person charged with treason or felony. He pointed out that this rule was rejected by the colonies and that the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution provides that in all criminal prosecutions the accused shall enjoy the right of counsel.

"In the light of the facts," the opinion continues, "the ignorance and illiteracy of the defendants, their youth, the circumstances of public hostility, the imprisonment and the close surveillance of the defendants by the military forces, the fact that their friends and families were all in other states and communication with them necessarily difficult, and above all that they stood in deadly peril of their lives—we think the failure of the trial court to give them reasonable time and opportunity to secure counsel was a clear denial of due process.

Blames Court

"But passing that, and assuming their inability, even if opportunity had been given, to employ counsel, as the trial court evidently did assume, we are of opinion that under the circumstances just stated the necessity of counsel was so vital and imperative that the failure of the trial court to make an effective appointment of counsel was likewise a denial of due process within the meaning of the Fourteenth Amendment.

"Whether this would be so in other criminal prosecutions, or under other circumstances we need not determine. All that it is necessary now to decide, as we do decide, is that in a capital case, where the defendant is unable to employ counsel, and is incapable adequately of making his own defense because of ignorance, feeble-mindedness, illiteracy, or the like, it is the duty of the court, whether requested or not, to assign counsel for him as a necessary requisite of due process of law; and that duty is not discharged by an assignment at such a time or under such cir-

istances as to preclude the giv-
of effective aid in the prepara-
and trial of the case.
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Dissenting Opinion

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Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment for Ra

Alabama.

3733

MONTGOMERY, ALA.
ADVERTISER

APR 16 1932

A STUPID CALUMNY

We like part-time liberals best. These professional liberals, like professional Bourbons, quickly become asses. They fight harder to stay in the categories into which they have been drawn, than to apprehend the minutiae of the eternal verities.

The professional liberal is afraid to relax and be himself. He is afraid to invite the disapproval of his mates in the ironclad category that contains him. His idea of how to preserve his character as a "liberal" is to close his mind against commonplace truths and commonplace virtues.

He does not watch with affectionate, appraising eye, the maiden with the scales of justice in one hand and the white emblem of truth in another.

He is cowed by the Harlot of Expediency and tags along meekly at her perfumed apron strings—he is afraid he will lose caste in his guild if at any time he is moved by sense and integrity to seem less than a professional liberal than his comrades have understood him to be.

Now, we are not quite sure just what a professional liberal is, but if the editors of The New Republic are not professionals then the type does not exist. If they are not safely locked in a rigid, unyielding category, then we have followed in vain the career of the unctuous, sugary journal to which they are attached.

Be all that as it may, The New Republic in a recent article politely and judiciously entitled, "Legal Murder in Alabama," says:

> **The question of justice to the defendants (in the Scottsboro case) of course no longer enters into the matter from Alabama's point of view—if indeed, one can speak of justice in connection with a trial of Negro defendants on a serious charge in that State.**

This is suspiciously professional because the professional liberal, unlike the enlightened person who is less concerned with categories than with truth, is not above writing or speaking a calumny. Vanity rather than conscience dictates his feats of exhibitionism.

The New Republic is plainly guilty of printing a calumny upon a State which so far as the "Scottsboro case" is concerned has acted decently and conscientiously, and which so far as Negro defendants in general are concerned has acted decently and conscientiously.

The Advertiser would be less than candid if it did not say that in Alabama, as in New York, a white man in court has some advantage over a Negro—if for no other reason than the fact that generally speaking he is better able to employ competent counsel than the average Negro. The Negro has less chance of beating the law because he is less able to command intelligence. And there is no doubt that hapless Negroes are frequently bullied and browbeaten by peace officers.

But this is a fact: The moment that a lowly Negro enters a courtroom under the protection of the court in this State he can feel assured that his rights will be jealously guarded, even though they may not always be intelligently expounded by the lawyer he has picked up. We do not know of a trial judge in Alabama who bullies lowly people, whether white or black. We do not know of a trial judge in this State who does not seem particularly alert to save such people from abuse and injustice, who is not quick to rebuke officers who overstep the bounds in dealing with friendless people. This writer has had much experience as a juror in trying all sorts of cases. He has never served on a jury every member of which did not seem disposed to lean backwards in giving the Negro his due. While acutely aware of the frailties of the sort of Negro who runs afoul of the law, and compelled by the dictates of common sense to make allowance for these frailties, the average Alabama juror likes to say to himself when he retires to pass judgment upon a Negro before the bar: "Because he is a Negro, I wish to be especially considerate and fair. He hasn't many friends outside. I want to be his friend here." The attitude of the white juror toward the Negro defendant is in truth paternal, a fact which offends professional liberals, but the Negro likes it. He knows that but for this paternalistic spirit upon the part of his white neighbor he would be hopelessly sunk.

The white juror may sometimes show an undeserved leniency to the white defendant—if the white defendant's case is competently managed. The white juror will make sure that the Negro defendant who is palpably guilty is convicted. But we have never known a white juror who was willing to convict a Negro defendant as to whose guilt there was reasonable doubt. On the contrary the Negro can count upon receiving the benefit of the doubt, not only at the hands of juries, but especially at the hands of trial judges, and the judges of the higher courts.

A Jefferson county Negro was put to trial for an atrocious murder which had been preceded by assault. Popular feeling knew no bounds. But one or more men on the jury that tried this man were in doubt as to his guilt, and there was a mistrial. He will be put to trial again soon.

A Montgomery county Negro was accused of attempted assault upon a white woman, and the circumstantial evidence was damaging. An attempt to lynch him was made, but the attempt failed. The Negro was tried by a Montgomery county jury of white men, and acquitted. The guilty man was later apprehended and convicted.

A well-to-do white farmer in Coffee county was charged with taking some slabs of meat from the smokehouse of a lowly Negro. The white man was convicted and given 10 years in the penitentiary.

In the Spring of 1931 a group of Negroes in Jackson County, Alabama, committed the first act of mass rape of which there is any record in this State. The victims of this peculiarly revolting crime were two nondescript white girls. We infer from what the professional liberals have written about this affair that mass rape of girls of questionable repute is not a matter to call for any further action than the lifting of an eyebrow or a shrug of the shoulder. Under the code which we infer that the professional liberals accept no woman on earth has the right of choice.

The fact is that the Negroes who attacked these girls in mass formation were themselves persons of doubtful reputations. They were shiftless Negroes most of whom, we believe, had police records behind them. The fact is that if these two nondescript girls had been of blameless reputation and had been members of the proudest family in Alabama, they would not have been spared the unspeakable ordeal to which they were subjected

The fact is that a sensible, courageous, bold Alabama sheriff was able to save the lives of these Negroes under circumstances which did him great honor. He prevented mob action until the Governor could send soldiers. The rapists were promptly indicted, promptly put to trial and promptly convicted. But in reviewing the work of the trial court the Supreme Court of Alabama did not act promptly. It worked slowly and deliberately and went into the case carefully and conscientiously. In the end it decided that the Negroes had been fairly tried. It was not for the Supreme Court to pass judgment upon the guilt or innocence of the defendants. But there is no room for doubting their guilt. They are guilty.

In Alabama the law makes rape a capital crime. Most of the people who have taken exception to the extreme sentence pronounced upon these Negroes are people who are opposed to capital punishment for any cause. At the moment The Advertiser does not know of an individual who is against executing these Negroes who is not in fact opposed to capital punishment in principle.

But it is unfair and uncandid to cloak a conviction against the principle of capital punishment in a protest against "Alabama justice" as represented by the Scottsboro case. Men and women who are against capital punishment in principle should be frank about it and say so. They should not unite in arraigning the courts of a State which in this case appear to have been guided solely by the facts and the law.

The facts in this case cannot be changed. The law under which the facts were reviewed, can be, but not by the courts. It can be changed only by the Legislature. Until the chaste and noble idealists who edit The New Republic prevail upon the State of New York to abolish capital punishment for major crimes, may we suggest that they spare Alabama from their attacks merely because it is unwilling to suspend the same law in Alabama to avenge a mass crime against two helpless, if unimportant, girls?

World Demonstration Planned By Negroes

Advertiser

9-12-32

Montgomery, Ala

NEW YORK, Sept. 11.—(AP)—The International Labor Defense announced today world-wide mass demonstrations in support of the defense of eight negro boys, convicted at Scottsboro, Ala., of attacking two white girls, would be held Oct. 8.

Carl Hacker, acting national secretary of the International Labor Defense, said that day had been set aside as "Scottsboro Day" by the International Red Aid, sections of which had pledged their support throughout the world.

Hacker said he expected 59 countries to participate in the demonstrations. The case against the boys is scheduled for review by the U. S. Supreme Court on Oct. 10. They were sentenced to death in April, 1931.

"I GO TO PRISON FOR THE SCOTTSBORO BOYS"-MRS. WRIGHT

Build the Mass Defense! Stop the Lynchers!

Daily Worker
9-14-32
New York
N.Y.

(Editor's Note: The following article by Mrs. Wright, mother of two of the Scottsboro boys, was written during her imprisonment in Klodno, Czechoslovakia. It is the first extended article Mrs. Wright has ever written. Mrs. Wright's arrest and imprisonment is part of the efforts instigated by the United States government to disrupt her European Scottsboro Defense tour. These inspired attacks on the mass fight to free the nine innocent Negro boys are increasing as Oct. 10 nears, the date set by the U. S. Supreme Court for a review of the infamous lynch verdicts against seven of the boys. The workers of the whole world must repel these attacks and build the mass defense which alone can stop the bloody hands of the boss-class lynchers and free the Scottsboro boys.)

* * *

By MRS. ADA WRIGHT

I never dreamed that I had the strength to make a seven months' tour of the United States and then to cross the Atlantic and for more than four months now to "carry on" in the European Scottsboro campaign.

There have been many difficulties. But my love for my two sons, the overwhelming desire and hope to see them free again, with all the Scottsboro boys, with the growing desire, that I did not understand 17 months ago, to achieve something for my race and my class, have kept me strong. I grew to understand the police attacks upon our meetings. I could even understand my being expelled twice from Belgium, a country which tyrannizes over so many millions of my people in the Congo, in Africa.

But I didn't think that they would ever send me to jail and to prison, just for trying to save the lives of my two sons.

Yet, I have been to prison in our struggle to save the Scottsboro boys. And I will say now, that I am willing to go again, and for a longer time if it will help the cause in which so many millions of workers are struggling.

Same Workers.

They arrested me at Klodno, in the coal fields near Prague, in Czechoslovakia. I had never heard of Czechoslovakia, or of Prague, or Klodno, before they were included in our European tour. But the workers here were just like the workers that I saw in the twelve other countries I had visited. One woman comrade who arrested me at Klodno had been a delegate to the Amsterdam Anti-War Congress.

MRS. ADA WRIGHT

They told me that Klodno was the birthplace of Anthony J. Cermak, the democratic mayor of Chicago. He had been to Klodno only a few weeks previously. He had been acclaimed by the government and feasted by its officials. I remember Mayor Cermak's police in Chicago murdered three of my people, shooting them down in the streets during an unemployed demonstration against th eeviction from their homes of some jobless Negro workers. I have heard much more aboue the police terror in Chicago.

That makes it easier for me to understand why I should be arrested by the friends of Chicago's mayor in Klodno, over here in Czechoslovakia in Europe.

I was arrested before I ever spoke at or even reached the Klodno meeting. They dragged me off to the police station and tried to terrorize me into admitting that I was trying to carry on Communist propaganda. They tried to get me to say that I intended talking "politics," and that I was trying to interfere with the local conditions in Klodno. I told them I didn't know anything about conditions in Klodno, that I didn't know enough yet to talk politics, and that I felt I didn't know enough yet about Communism to be a good Communist.

Arrested At 1 A. M.

At first they said they would release me after the meeting, which went on without me, was over. But they lied. They announced instead they would lock me up for the night.

I demanded the right to go to a hotel and said I would pay for it with my own money.

This they refused me. It was 1 o'clock in the morning when they put me into a cell and locked me up.

Some of the comrades had remained close to me all this time. But they were forced to say at last "Good night!"

At that moment I never felt so much alone in all my life. I admit that I nearly broke down and cried.

But in that very moment I resolved not to shed a single tear in any boss-class jail or prison. And I didn't, although the three nights following were even worse than the first.

Sunday night I spent in the Prague police station fighting off the bugs and vermin. I shall never forget. **And the next day, Labor Day in the United States, Sept. 5, I was taken to the Fispann Prison, where deportees are interned before being sent** out of the country. Instead of releasing me, the interior minister, through his own paper, called me a "Bolshevik Negro Woman," in big headlines, and "A Black Communist."

Fight Is Not In Vain.

So on the fourth day they sent me out of the country with Comrade Engdahl, declaring we were "undesirable foreigners." They told me that T. G. Masaryk, president of the Czechoslovakian Republic, was at one time—when Hohenzollern and Hapsburg ruled in Germany and Austria and there were no Czechoslovakian Republic—professor in the University of Chicago, which I have heard called the Rockefeller Standard Oil University.

Everyone knows of the Ludlow Massacre of women and children in the strikers' tent colony, when the coal miners went on strike against Rockefeller's Colorado Fuel and Iron Company.

I was wondering if Masaryk was preparing such a massacre for the coal miners of Klodno. Going to prison for the first time has started me thinking about many things.

The police accompanied us on the train as far as the Austrian border, to see that we were safely out of the country.

The Austrian comrades greeted us on our arrival at Vienna and began arranging meetings to take the place of those denied us in Czechoslovakia.

And I see that the newspapers everywhere are discussing the action of the Czechoslovakia government and the Scotsboro campaign. Perhaps I did not go to jail in vain.

THAT SCOTTSBORO CASE

Defender
9-17-32
Chicago, Ill.

When the supreme court of Alabama sustained a mob verdict and sentenced nine black boys to death for riding in a box car with two white prostitutes, it placed in the national records of America a "bill of complaint" which, if not reversed by a higher tribunal, will serve to weaken respect and undermine the confidence of those who believe the process of the courts to be the preservers of our constitutional liberty.

Thousands of American citizens who look upon the Constitution of this country as being the last word in mental effort in the interpretation of human liberty regard this decision as an irreparable wrong, both as to respect of law and order and as to respect of the spirit of the Constitution as well.

This "bill of complaint" creates food for those who seek to disturb the peaceful and harmonious relationship existing among the various units of our citizenry. It is needless to discuss the attitude of the black people of America with reference to the Constitution of the country, for the answer has been given on every field of carnage where the rights of this nation have been questioned.

A careful study of the records in the now celebrated Scottsboro case does not disclose in its findings any justifiable reason for such a decision as was rendered by the lower court, nor has reason been found for sustaining it by the higher court of the state. Recognizing, of course, what everyone must know—that in the courts of the South decisions are often governed by the color of the defendant at bar—yet this decision was so cruel in purpose and operation that we were not quite prepared for it.

In the final analysis this decision may be sustained and the lives of these young boys taken to boost the unmerited character of two prostitutes, but it will add nothing substantial to the character of either the nation or the permanence of the Constitution. The word "judge" should be held in great reverence and honor, but this can only be done through the faithful observance of the strict spirit of the law by him upon whom the title has been bestowed.

It is of record that once a great judge at the instance of Caiaphas the high priest caused to be put to death an innocent man by mob violence. This judge spent the rest of his life trying to wash from his hands the stain of blood left there by his decision. It is hoped that the intervening 1,900 years since that drama was enacted have been sufficient to assure all who sit in the seats of the mighty that an unjust decision will leave behind a stain both on the court and the state which time cannot obliterate.

SCOTTSBORO MA MAKES CROWDS IN EUROPE WEEP

Afro-American
9-17-32
Baltimore, Md.

By J. A. ROGERS
(Co-operative News Service)

PARIS—Mrs. Ada Wright, mother of two of the Scottsboro boys, has been ordered expelled by the Belgian government, for entering Belgium after having been refused entry. Mrs. Wright was to speak at Gilly in Belgium at a Communist meeting when she and her interpreter were arrested.

Mrs. Wright.

It was only after a sharp clash with the police that she was taken from the Communists, for a number of them, chiefly women, battled to retain her. Many of these women were arrested with Mrs. Wright.

Communist newspapers, among them "L'Humanite of Paris," declared that to the solidarity of the governments must be opposed the solidarity of all the working people, regardless of color or nationality. They allege that Belgium is anxious to have no color agitation within her own borders since her very existence depends upon the exploitation of the blacks in the Belgian Congo.

Mrs. Ada Wright has been having an immense success in stirring up sympathy in the leading countries of Europe for the Scottsboro boys. Women and children and even men sometimes, weep in her audiences at the story of this mother whose sons are doomed to death on a trumped-up charge of an attack on two prostitutes. Prostitutes are abundant and very much in evidence in the European countries, and though there is a certain sympathy for them, they are considered as being at the very bottom of the social scale. That eight youths should be sentenced to death on account of women of this type seems to Europeans, therefore, an injustice too great for words.

Lynchings-1932
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Alabama

3734

YOUNGSTOWN, O.
TELEGRAM
NOV 8 - 1932

U. S. Supreme Court Gives State Of Alabama Stinging Rebuke On Scottsboro Boys' Trials

By RUTH FINNEY
Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, Nov. 8.—No more stinging rebuke has been administered to a state court in years than the United States supreme court decision ordering the state of Alabama to re-try seven negro boys charged with assa~~ulting two~~ white girls and sentenced to death at Scottsboro.

The Scottsboro trials had been reviewed and approved by the supreme court of Alabama, altho the state chief justice did not concur. The attorney general of the state himself argued before the United States court that the convictions were valid.

The supreme court found that "in the light of the facts . . . the ignorance and illiteracy of the defendants, their youth, the circumstances of public hostility, the imprisonment and close surveillance of the defendants by the military forces, the fact that their friends and families were all in other states and communication with them necessarily difficult, and above all that they stood in deadly peril of their lives—we think the failure of the trial court to give them a reasonable time and opportunity to secure counsel was a clear denial of due process."

Denial Of Due Process

The court went even further, adding:

"But passing that and assuming their inability, even if opportunity had been given to secure counsel, as the trial court evidently did assume, we are of the opinion that under the circumstances just stated the necessity of counsel was so vital and imperative that the failure of the trial court to make an effective appointment of counsel was likewise a denial of due process within the meaning of the 14th amendment."

This paragraph referred to the fact that the trial judge designated all members of the Scottsboro bar to represent the boys when they were arraigned, without making any one or more persons definitely responsible, and made no further appointment of counsel for the trials beyond urging, the morning the trials started, that a Tennessee man who was unprepared and unfamiliar with Alabama procedure, represent the boys.

Expansive Gesture

This blanket appointment the supreme court referred to as "little more than an expansive gesture imposing no substantial or definite obligation upon anyone," and pointed out that the boys "were put in peril of their lives within a few moments after counsel for the first time charged with any degree of responsibility began to represent them."

Alhto Monday's verdict applies only to seven boys, two others arrested at the same time are still in prison and the national committee for the defense of political prisoners made an appeal in their behalf at the same time the new trial was granted. There was a mistrial in the case of one of the boys, and the conviction of the other was reversed by the Alabama supreme court on the ground that he was a juvenile. The boys have been in prison since April 1931.

AKRON, O.
BEACON JOURNAL
NOV 8 - [illegible]

A Just Decision

There will be nationwide approval for the decision of the U. S. supreme court granting new trials to the seven negro youths of Scottsboro, Alabama who ~~were under s~~entence of death for assault, upon complaint of two white girls.

The court reversed the Alabama judgment for the reason that the "young, illiterate and ignorant defendants" had not been given adequate legal representation in their trials, and that the jury which found them guilty was overawed by the presence of an armed militia and hostile mob outside the doors of the courtroom.

Upon the other hand the communist faction which took up the cause of the Scottsboro defendants at Washington went to the opposite extreme in trying to browbeat the supreme court. The arrest of 12 men and women for a demonstration in Capitol plaza outside the supreme court chamber was in no better motive or character than that of the Alabama mob.

The supreme court's decision sustaining all the elements of American justice is its own best answer to both these exhibits of attempts to coerce judicial action. With the attention the Scottsboro case has attracted the youths will now get a fair trial, for the railroading processes that attended their first conviction can hardly be repeated with the whole country looking on.

YOUNGSTOWN, O.
TELEGRAM
NOV 8 - 1932

The Scottsboro Decision

NONE can read without elation the supreme court's 7 to 2 decision granting new trials to the seven negro boys sentenced to hang for alleged assault in the Scottsboro aff~~air.~~

Here was not only even-handed equity for those of an exploited race, but rebuke for those who pervert the courts of the land as instruments for race and class intimidation.

There is nobility in these words read by Justice Sutherland:

"However guilty the defendants on due inquiry might prove to have been, they were, until convicted, presumed to be innocent. It was the duty of the courts having their cases in charge to see that they were denied no necessary incident of fair trial."

Such justice the seven judges found has been denied by the Alabama trial court. The negro boys were denied time and opportunity to obtain adequate counsel. The trial "from beginning to end took place in an atmosphere of tense, hostile and excited public sentiment." That they were "ignorant and illiterate" strangers, and stood "in deadly peril of their lives," made the court's duty to protect their rights more imperative.

It was unfortunate that Communists sought to picket the supreme court prior to reading of the decision. Their demonstration, of course, had no effect, since the opinion had been reached some days before. The same cannot be said for the picketing mob which helped to turn the original Alabama trial into a virtual court lynching.

The supreme court found that the defendants had been denied due process under the 14th amendment. "To hold otherwise," it concluded, "would be to ignore the fundamental postulate, already adverted to 'that there are certain immutable principles of justice which inhere in the very idea of free government which no member of the Union may disregard.'"

This decision should be a warning to the lower courts, especially of the south, that the negro race still is protected by the constitution of the United States.

SCOTTSBORO BOYS THANK WORKERS

Daily Worker
11-26-32

Hail Great Partial Victory in Fight

New York.

NEW YORK.—The seven Scottsboro boys in the death cells of Kilby Prison, Ala., "could not help but shout for joy," when they received word from William L. Patterson, national secretary of the International Labor Defense, that the workers of the world, led by the ILD, had forced the U. S. Supreme Court to grant them a new tral.

These were the words in which Andy Wright, one of the defendents expressed the feelings of all the boys in a letter to William Patterson. Letters expressing their gratitude to the workers, through the ILD, were received today from Andy Wright, Olen Montgomery, and Eugene Williams.

Andy Wright's letter said in part:

Kilby Prison,
Montgomery, Ala.

"Dear Comrade:

"Just a few lines so as to express by sincere gratitude to you for all hard and faithful work, needless to say how proud we were when we heard of the wonderful news. Altho we hope the next move will be freedom and very soon as I save gotten tired of this prison. Of course we have got faith that you alls will get us out very soon.

"I read in today's paper that you all is taking the step to get us out on bail. I certainly will be proud of that, because this prison goes so hard with us here especially when we is being punished for something we did not do.

"I know mother were happy when she heard of the good news. So I will close, please extend my heartiest regards to all.

Comradely yours,
Andy Wright."

• • •

Olen Montgomery, also from the Kilby Prson death cells, wrote:

"I know that my dear mother is joyser over it as many hard thangs she have had thrawen in her face about my trouble. Oh, well, they ain't the only ones are happy over it. I myself feels like I have been born again. For the worrying and heartbraken I have hade thinking of my poor innocence life.

So I remain yours as ever,
Olen Montgomery."

Eugene Williams' letter reveals once again the policy of the Southern lynch-authorities of torturing the boys, by preventing them from obtaining any exercise. "I really will be glad when the day comes when Roy and I can go in the streets where I can exercise my worried bones. For

I sure ain't getting any in here." Roy Wright and Eugene Williams are in the Birmingham County jail. In Roy's case there was a mistrial in the original trial. Williams' conviction was reversed by the Alabama State Supreme Court. Habeas corpus proceedings to obtain their release on bail are being undertaken by the ILD, which is also trying to force the removal of the other boys from the death house.

The Negro Misleaders on the Scottsboro Decision

Daily Worker 11-15-32

Walter White, Speaking for N.A.A.C.P., Seeks to Disrupt Mass Fight

By CYRIL BRIGGS

IN a statement in the New York Times of November 8—the very day following the announcement of the decision of the U. S. Supreme Court reversing the lynch death verdicts against 7 of the Scottsboro boys—W. White, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, expressed the pious hope that "prejudice from either side may be kept out of the retrial in Alabama and that the innocence of the defendants, of which we are convinced, may be clearly established."

The only logical conclusion to be drawn from Mr. White's phrase of "prejudice from either side" is that he is referring to (1) the prejudice of the ruling class lynchers against the Scottsboro boys and the entire Negro people, and (2) the prejudice of the revolutionary workers in favor of the Negro masses groaning under a brutal national oppression, and in militant defense of the nine innocent Scottsboro victims of capitalist justice.

WALTER WHITE'S PURPOSE

No worker will believe that Mr. White seriously imagines that the rabid hatred of the Alabama ruling class against the Negro masses has been magically wiped out by the decision of the United States Supreme Court—a decision wrested from this high court of American capitalism by the tremendous protest and mass fight of white and Negro workers in this country and of millions of workers and intellectuals throughout the whole world. What, then, is Mr. White's purpose in holding up before the masses the illusion that these Negro victims of capitalist justice can secure a fair trial in the Alabama lynch courts? Plainly, what he is seeking is not the unobtainable "impartial" and "fair trial" in the courts of the boss lynchers, but the disruption of the mass defense which alone can save and free the Scottsboro boys.

It is only this mass defense that has saved the boys so far, that has five times forced back the hands of the lynchers reached out to burn these innocent working-class children in the electric chair. And it is precisely against this mass defense that Mr. White and the other reformist leaders of the N. A. A. C. P. and the Socialist Party have levelled their attacks in the past. It is precisely this mass fight, with its unifying influence on the American working-class, with its relentless struggle against the whole system of Jim Crowism, lynch law and the national oppression of the Negroes, that American imperialism and its reformist lackeys fear.

* * *

IT is significant in itself that on the very day of the Supreme Court's decision, the New York Times should solicit statements on the decision from the white and Negro reformists who have consistently hampered and betrayed the struggle for the Scottsboro boys. Can anyone imagine that the New York Times does not know who has mobilized and led the fight for the freedom of the Scottsboro boys? The whole world knows that this fight is organized and led by the Communist Party, the International Labor Defense and the League of Struggle for Negro Rights.

Upon several of those occasions when the mass fight has smashed through the conspiracy of silence of the whole capitalist and "socialist" press, the Times has been forced to record the fact that all of the boys and their relatives had repudiated Walter White and the other reformist leaders of the N. A. A. C. P. and had endorsed and were staunchly supporting the militant defense policy of the International Labor Defense. Yet it was not from the Negro head of the I. L. D., Comrade William Patterson, or other white and Negro leaders of the I. L. D., that the New York Times sought to obtain statements on the present status of the case.

The tremendous growth of the mass fight for the freedom of the Scottsboro boys make it impossible for the capitalist press to maintain its conspiracy of silence. It is now feverishly trying to rehabilitate the shattered prestige of the capitalist courts in the eyes of the working-class. It is seeking to disarm the Scottsboro mass defense by peddling illusions among the masses as to the "fairness" and "impartiality" of the courts. It carefully attempts to hide the real reason for the Supreme Court decision—the tremendous mass pressure exerted on the court—and attempts to interpret this decision, wrested by the working class from the capitalist oppressors of the Negro masses, the jailers of the innocent Scottsboro boys and of Tom Mooney, the murderers of Sacco and Vanzetti—as "proof" of the "impartiality" and "integrity' 'of capitalism, a court of last illusions. And in its attack on the mass fight, the capitalist press is mobilizing the white and Negro reformists for an even fiercer assault than these lackeys have carried on in the past against the Scottsboro defense.

* * *

MR. WHITE eagerly responding to his master's voice shows clearly that the N. A. A. C. P. misleaders intend to continue their insidious campaign to disrupt the mass defense campagin. The white and Negro workers and all those elements sincerely interested in freeing the Scottsboro boys must answer the capitalist press and the Negro and white reformists by further building and extending the mass fight on the basis of the concrete program of the I. L. D. for a united front from below.

New York American

NOV 3 1932

Negroes Seek Permit To Picket Capitol

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2 (AP).—Joseph North, of the International Labor Defense, said tonight he would confer with Capitol police tomorrow about a request for permission to picket Capitol grounds Monday in behalf of the negroes convicted in the Scottsboro attack cases, who appeal is under consideration by the Supreme Court.

Captain Gnash, of the Capitol police, said:

"I have granted North an audience tomorrow and it depends on what he says, whether there will be any picketing. I will hear what he has to say and then make known what I'll do."

Late J. Louis Engdahl With Mrs. Ada Wright

12-10-32

J. Louis Engdahl, national chairman of the International Labor Defense, is shown here with Mrs. Ada Wright, mother of two of the Scottsboro boys, on the eve of their departure, last spring, on the six-months tour of Europe on behalf of the Scottsboro boys. They addressed the workers of sixteen countries, and successfully mobilized hundreds of thousands to join in the mass protest against the Scottsboro lynch verdict. Hounded by the police at the request of the American State Department, and expelled from three countries, Engdahl was broken in health in his campaign for the freedom of the Scottsboro boys. He died in Moscow, November 21.

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment for Ra

Alabama

Scottsboro Calls for $10,000 Defense Fund

By J. LOUIS ENGDAHL
General Secretary, International Labor Defense

The International Labor Defense has launched in its Drive for a $10,000 Fighting Fund of Scottsboro. This Fund must be secured immediately!

Daily Worker

While mass protest grows everywhere in resistance to the lynching decision of the Alabama State Supreme Court, it must spread still more.

3-31-32

Parallel with the mass resistance campaign there must also be carried forward the legal struggle in the courts.

New York

We are not yet through with the Alabama State Supreme Court. We have demanded a rehearing on our appela. New trials face Roy Wright and Eugene Williams in the Scotts-

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italists and for Unemployment In-

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N. A. A. C. P. WILLING TO RE-ENTER SCOTTSBORO CASE

Reporter

New York, March 31 (Special).—That the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People stands ready to re-enter the Scottsboro case if permitted to act unhampered, is made public in a statement issued by Secretary Walter White from the headquarters of the organization in New York immediately following the news that the Alabama Supreme Court had affirmed the death sentences of seven of the eight Negro boys convicted at Scottsboro, Alabama, in April, 1931, of attacking two white girls.

Secretary White's statement follows:

4-2-32

"The N. A. A. C. P. is terribly shocked to learn that the Alabama Supreme Court yesterday affirmed the convictions and death sentences imposed upon seven of the helpless Negro boys convicted in a mob-

"For Alabama to permit the carrying out of such a barbarous sentence would be nothing short of mass execution with legal sanction and this belief is held throughout the civilized world. We hope that Alabama's governor will take the first step dictated by justice and humanity and that is to commute those barbarous sentences.

"The N. A. A. C. P. profoundly regrets that its attorneys, the internationally famous Clarence Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hays, were not enabled to take part in the defense before the Alabama Supreme Court. We do not know whether the outcome would have been different had these attorneys appeared but many people will feel that these famous lawyers might have achieved a different result.

Birmingham, Ala.

"But the N. A. A. C. P. even yet stands ready to throw the weight of its entire legal resources into the case to aid the defendants if the defendants will permit it to act unhampered by outside interference."

Senators Smile As Girls Plead For 7 Negroes

Advertiser

WASHINGTON, April 1.—(AP)—Four young women from Vassar and Wellesley Colleges visited the Capitol today in an effort to arouse sentiment in Congress against the execution of seven young negroes of Scottsboro, Ala., under sentence to die May 13 for assaults upon two white girls.

4-2-32

The students were Riva Stocker, Evelyn Rosenthal and Dorothy Lippincott, of Vassar; and Florence Smith, of Wellesley.

Montgomery, Ala.

When they called upon Senator Black, (D), Alabama, he suggested that there is sufficient crime in New York, Chicago and other Northern cities to make it unnecessary for them to interest themselves in crime in Alabama.

He told newspapermen that when he asked his callers whether they had read the evidence in the trial of the negroes they responded in the negative and said the information they had was obtained from newspapers. The Senator said he informed them he would be pleased to hear any comment from them after they had read the evidence.

The group then visited Senator Copeland, (D), New York, and asked him to make a Senate speech on the case. He told them he regarded this as a State matter to be settled by Alabama without Federal interference but agreed to read the record of the case when his visitors offered to provide him with it.

"It is always very difficult to keep me quiet if I'm aroused about anything," he said. "I assume I would be very vocal in this matter if I found injustice had been done."

At the same time he suggested to Miss Stocker, the spokesman of the group, that residents of Alabama "might point to things in our State that we didn't do right." Miss Stocker agreed but said "colored people have more of a fair chance in the North."

COMMUNISTS FLOUTED ON SCOTTSBORO CASE

[illegible]

Denouncing the manner in which the Communist party, through the International Labor Deefnse, is handling the defense of eight youths sentenced to die in Scottsboro, Ala., J. B. Mathews, white, a representative of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, declared Thursday night before the Westchester County Liberal Forum that the Communists are using the case merely to impress upon Negroes the discrimination they suffer at the hands of the white race.

'32

Speaking of "Dollars and the Color Line," in the Jewish Community Center building, Yonkers, Mr. Mathews charged that the case of the Scottsboro victims had been removed from the hands of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People "through misrepresentation," and that the Communists were making no real effort to save the youths. A Communist speaker had previously asserted that the I. L. D. had stepped in after the Negro organization had failed

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ALABAMA SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS SCOTTSBORO VERDICT

The courts of the land are supreme. They must be—there could be no civilization without that.

Reporter

The case of the eight Scottsboro Negroes has been upheld and the Supreme Court verdict is that there was no visible error in the trial court's proceedings and the death sentence is affirmed. The opinion of the Court, however, is divided as is also public and expert opinion everywhere. The dissenting opinion of Chief Justice Anderson associates itself with a current of strong legal and lay opinion on the point of "due process of law" as finding issue in an atmosphere charged with feeling entirely bitter towards the defendants.

4-2-32

There have been many circumstances operating to influence the attitude of the Court and the public before and after the conviction. All of these circumstances have been of a most unfortunate kind and calculated in every way to inflame the feeling of both the Courts and the people to the consequent beclouding of the sentiment.

To say nothing of the crime, the procedure in arriving at the ends of justice has been under constant threats. All of it has come from outside sources, and it all has had a serious effect in determining the rights of the defendants under the law.

Birmingham, Ala.

We think that race hatred and Communism hatred have operated both ways—race hatred to prevent a healthy atmosphere for the issue of justice and Communism hatred to prevent the issue of the milk of human sympathy from the courts.

No one doubts that a new trial under different conditions would bring out a state more favorable to the rights of some of the convicted boys; nor does anyone doubt that the record of the trial court could have been different without more shameful results. It is one of those cases beset with all the tediousness arising out of inherited traditional impulses that complicate and tangle-up any situation where unbiased justice to a Negro is concerned.

But we are far enough from the scenes of that fateful day in which the atmosphere of Jackson County was surcharged with murderous hate to take the course of reason and sanity and let the highest good for the State and the individuals precipitate in the form of common justice for the State's good name, its institutions and its citizens.

The Supreme Court, of course, does not consider the question of the guilt or the innocence of the condemned men. It only passes on the question of error in the procedure of the trial court—the question of whether the trial court was or could have been unduly influenced by the circumstances surrounding it to the prejudice of inalienable rights of the defendants. The fact that the Alabama Supreme Court was not unanimous in its verdict indicates a difference of expert legal opinion that gives comfort to those who find it difficult to understand how a court and jury can be neutral-minded in the presence of a threatening mob or how a "fair and impartial" trial from a situation dominated by the fiercest threats of violence can be had.

Our conception of "due process of law" carries, at least, adequate defense and adequate time in which to prepare it without the menace of mob violence either for or against the accused.

The only hope now open for the life of the condemned Scottsboro youths is in the clemency of Alabama's Governor or an appeal to the United States Supreme Court.

In the former case, a commutation of the penalty to life imprisonment would be the outcome, and, in the latter case, a new trial would issue if the Supreme Court found the Alabama Supreme Court to be in error.

There is yet the hope that some means of saving the lives of these young men may be found. That hope throbs in the breasts of thousands of justice-loving people who find no approbation in their hearts for mob violence and mob sentiment in civilized communities.

One can appreciate the situation in which such unfortunate affairs places Alabama with the outside world when he recalls the wide publicity given this case and the storm of protests from various quarters of the world in ill-timed effort to influence the outcome of it. Our plea has always been for a fair and impartial trial, nothing but common justice and punishment to the extent of the guilt.

Without this for every man alike, no man can feel safe.

It is in the interest of all men as well as all the institutions on which men depend for safeguarding their interests that this case be given consideration on the merits of the circumstances out of which it grew and for Alabama more than the sake of seven lives is there widespread misgivings as to how its attitude toward justice for the defenseless will determine its place in the scale of enlightened civilized society.

ALA. STATE ATTORNEY OPPOSES NEW APPEAL FOR SCOTTSBORO BOYS

Daily Worker

3-28-32

I.L.D. Attorney Asks Court for New Hearing, Prepares to Take Fight to U. S. Supreme Court

Son of Supreme Court Justice Demands "No Delay" In Legally Lynching Seven Negro Lads

MONTGOMERY, Ala., March 27.—Applications for rehearing of the appeals against the Scottsboro lynch verdicts were filed yesterday with the Alabama Supreme Court by Gen. George W. Chamlee, Chattanooga attorney of the International Labor Defense.

The applications call upon the court to set aside its decision upholding the lynch verdicts against seven of the eight Negro children who were railroaded to death sentences on a framed-up "rape" charge in the lower court at Scottsboro, Ala.

The lynch verdicts were affirmed by the Alabama Supreme Court by a vote of 6 to 1. In dissenting from the majority opinion, Chief Justice John C. Anderson admitted that the Scottsboro boys had not had a fair trial. This split in the Alabama Supreme Court is in itself proof of the brazen character of the frame-up against these innocent Negro boys and a direct result of the tremendous mass pressure of the protests of angry workers throughout the world.

If the Alabama Supreme Court denies the applications for a new hearing, the fight will be carried to the United States Supreme Court by the International Labor Defense with the backing of tens of millions of aroused white and Negro workers in this country and throughout the whole world.

State Attorney Demands Immediate Death

Attorney General Thomas E. Knight of Alabama has already made it plain that the murderous ruling class of Alabama will oppose a new hearing for the boys before the Alabama Supreme Court. Knight declared yesterday he "would oppose any delay in executing the Negroes." Knight is the son of Thomas E. Knight, Sr., one of the justices of the Alabama Supreme Court.

SENTENCES FOR SEVEN CONFIRMED

3-30-32

New York, N.Y.

Retrial Ordered for One Youth Charged With Assault

Following the receipt of advices here Thursday that death sentences for seven of the nine Scottsboro boys had been affirmed by the Alabama Supreme Court at Montgomery, the International Labor Defense announced that the case would be appealed to the nation's highest tribunal.

Anticipating an adverse decision, George W. Chamlee, Chattanooga, Tenn., attorney engaged by the labor organization to appeal the boys' case, made preparations for the appeal to the United States Supreme Court last year.

Amsterdam

The boys were accused of attacking two white girls, Ruby Bates and Victoria Price, on a freight train between Stevenson and Paint Rock, Ala., March 25, 1931. They were tried at Scottsboro while a mob of 15,000 whites demanded their blood outside the court. Death sentences were passed on the nine lads April 11. The condemned youths ranged from 14 to 20 years of age.

3-30-32

Reverses One Sentence.

The Alabama high court reversed the sentence of Eugene Williams. It supported the penalties for Ozie Powell, William Roberson, Andy Wright, Ollin Montgomery, Heywood Patterson, Charlie Weems and Clarence Norris. Friday, May 13, was set as the date for execution.

Roy Wright, brother of Andy, is in jail at Birmingham awaiting retrial. A mistrial was declared in his case last April because he should have been sent to a juvenile court.

Chief Justice Disagrees.

Chief Justice John C. Anderson dissented in the opinions handed down by the five associate judges Thursday.

New York, N.Y.

The Scottsboro case has attracted world-wide attention. With the Labor Defense, Communists and liberal groups fighting for the lives of the boys, protests against their sentences poured into Scottsboro, the offices of Gov. B. M. Miller, and the attorney general from the entire nation and abroad. Hundreds of mass meetings were held, and threats were alleged to have been made against Alabama's highest officials.

N. A. A. C. P. Forced Out.

The National Association for the Advancement for Colored People engaged attorneys and sought to appeal the case. After the association had collected and spent several thousands of dollars, the boys expressed preference for the I. L. D., forcing the N. A. A. C. P. out.

The withdrawal came after the engaging of Clarence Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hayes, noted attorneys, to direct the appeal.

The I. L. D. has insisted repeatedly that the case is an example of Southern injustice calculated to keep the races apart and to bind Negro workers to serfdom. The organization held that no proof had been given to sustain the charges that the boys threw a group of white boys from the train and then assaulted the girls.

White Offers N. A. A. C. P. Aid if "Unhampered."

Asserting that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People "even yet stands ready to throw the weight of its entire legal resources" to the defense of the Scottsboro boys, provided the "defendants will permit it to act unhampered by outside interference," Walter White, secretary, Friday expressed regret at the Alabama Supreme Court's confirmation of the death sentence of seven of the eight boys.

Mr. White cited as a basis for appeal to the Federal Supreme Court the decision of that court in the Arkansas cases in 1923 when it was declared that a trial conducted in a mob atmosphere did not constitute due process of law. It is on the basis of this decision that the N. A. A. C. P. would take the case to the United States Supreme Court if permitted by the defendants, he said.

PROTEST RISES AGAINST ALA. LYNCH VERDICT

Daily Worker

4-18-32

New York

To Hold Scottsboro Meets Throughout Cleveland

CLEELAND, Ohio.—Mass protest against the legal lynching of the Scottsboro boys on May 13 is being organized in Cleveland by the International Labor Defense and the League of Struggle for Negro Rights, through a series of open-air meetings all over the city, leading up to a big mass demonstration on Thursday, April 21. This will be held at the East Technical High School Scovill and East 55th St., beginning at 8 p.m.

"The Negro Councilmen in Cleveland have refused to sign a resolution demanding the immediate safe release of the Scottsboro boys," the I. L. D. and L. S. N. R. point out. "This action on their part shows tha tthey have definitely aligned themselves with the white lynchers of teh north as well as of the south.

"Only organized mass protest will save the lives of these innocent children of the working class. Demand the immediate unconditional, safe release of the Scottsboro boys. Demonstrate your solidarity with the Negro masses. Organize and fight against lynching, segregation and Jim Crowism. Condemn the action of the Negro councilmen in Cleveland."

In addition to the Scottsboro protest meetings on Tuesday and Thursday an open-air meeting will be held on Monday, April 18, at West 25th and Lorain. All meetings begin at 8 p.m.

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Alabama.

3736

Scottsboro Protests Pour In on Ala. Supreme Court

Daily Worker

New York, N.Y.

BULLETIN.

NEW YORK.—The national office of the International Labor Defense yesterday received the following telegram from Langston Hughes, outstanding Negro poet and writer in the country who is at present in Alabama:

"This morning I visited Scottsboro boys in Kilby Prison. Read several poems to them. They were hopeful (of) soon being free. Have sent story Barnett, Chicago. I congratulate you on splendid presentation made by Brodsky before court as reported by friends here. Success to you in appeal. LANGSTON HUGHES."

1-25-32

PARIS, Jan. 25.—L'Humanité, French Communist paper, has been carrying on an active campaign among the French workers and peasants in behalf of the Scottsboro boys. In many articles and editorials, it has urged French workers and their organizations to cable demands for the release of these innocent Negro boys to the Alabama Supreme Court and to Governor B. M. Miller of Alabama. Already many resolutions and protests have been forwarded. Protests and resolutions also have been sent to United States Ambassador to France, Edge.

* * *

JOHNSTOWN, Pa., Jan. 25.—A mass meeting of Johnstown workers last Wednesday night unanimously adopted resolutions demanding the immediate and unconditional release of the nine innocent Scottsboro boys and the Kentucky Negro and white mine strikers jailed by the coal operators and their courts.

The meeting was addressed by Fred Bell, District Organizer of the International Labor Defense. He called upon the workers to organize in a united front of Negro and white workers to fight for the release of the Scottsboro boys and other class war victims and against the hunger program and lynch terror of the bosses. He urged them to support the February 4th demonstrations for unemployment relief and social insurance.

Many workers joined the I. L. D and pledged themselves to build the I. L. D. in Johnstown into a mass organization to fight against the bosses' terror.

Copies of the resolution demanding the release of the Scottsboro boys were forwarded to the Alabama Supreme Court and to Gov. B. M. Miller of Alabama.

* * *

CARENGIE, Pa.—The local branch of the International Labor Defense yesterday sent a protest telegram to the Alabama Supreme Court denouncing the attempt to railroad the innocent Scottsboro boys to the electric chair, and demanding their immediate and unconditional release.

* * *

DETROIT, Jan. 24.—Ninety delegates from mass organizations, trade unions, Unemployed Council, League of Strugle for Negro Rights International Labor Defense branches and several Negro churches raised the demand for the immediate relas of the nine Scottsboro boys, and against discrimination against the Negro workers by the "faker Murphy" here in Detroit.

Delegates Expose Murphy

A delegate from the Ukrainian Women's Organization reported that when Murphy came to speak before them, before the election, he told the Ukrainians that he liked them the best because they "sing so beautifully." A Negro delegate from the Baptist Church stated that Murphy told them at their meeting that he likes the Negroes the best. A Polish woman delegate got up and said that when Murphy spoke at their meeting, he told them that he likes the Polish people the best. A Negro worker from the Unemployed Council said "Looks to me that Murphy likes us all, but when we demand milk for our babies and when we demand unemployment insurance he clubs us all and he helps the Federal authorities to deport the Polish, Ukrainians and all the foreign born."

The Negro worker further stated that Murphy who is on the executive board of the N. A. A. C. P. sends his police to shoot down Negro workers, as in the case of Lester Owen, shot by Murphy when he attempted to pick up a few chunks of coal to warm up his family. This comrade appealed for unity of all workers, white and Negro, in the struggle against the demagogues of both races, (applause).

After the reports and the discussion the conference decided to organize four sections of the Scotsboro committee and as the result of this we already saw the big demonstration of workers lead by the Hamtramck and North Detroit Committee on January 19 before the city hall, forcing the grafting politicians of Hamtramck to send a telegram to the governor and the Supreme Court of Alabama demanding the release of the Scottsboro boys.

Chattanooga, Tenn.
NEWS

JAN 7 1932

Eight Lives in Jeopardy

THE International Labor Defense has managed to alienate much powerful and conscientious support from the cause of the eight Negroes who are sentenced to death at Scottsboro for rape.

This Communist organization quarrels with other organizations over the case; it busily publicizes itself with a fanfare of propaganda, and it gives the dread impression that it would not be averse to seeing the eight Negroes strung to the gallows as martyrs against the system of capitalism.

The News is interested in fairness for the Scottsboro defendants. We desire justice to prevail, and we sense an ominous effort to make another Sacco-Vanzetti case out of it at the expense of the lives of the eight Negroes.

We do not see how lawyers for the International Labor Defense could exclude eminent legal assistance, offered to them free, and yet convince their own consciences that they were giving the Negroes the best defense possible. Clarence Darrow struck at the very heart of the situation when he declared: "If we are going to save those boys, we have got to save them in Alabama, not in Russia or New York."

Mr. Darrow charges threatening letters have been sent to Alabama officials. Mass meetings have been held with a view to stirring racial prejudice. Obviously, racial prejudice is the one thing which sincere believers in justice for these Negroes do not want to see stirred up. But the misguided men who are working for the International Labor Defense seek to make it a *cause celebre*, and the net results of their efforts thus far have been to damage the case for the defendants.

The speed of the trial of these Negroes, the psychology which pervaded the courtroom, the traditional harsh justice handed out to Negro rapists in the South—all these things worked against justice at Scottsboro.

The latest of the sensations among attorneys in the case is the charge by a former prize fighter that he was paid by the attorney for the International Labor Defense to get one of the women alleged to have been a victim of the Negroes to sign a statement saying that the Negroes are innocent. This is denied by the attorney. The woman says that she was so drunk at the time she is alleged to have signed the statement, that she didn't know what she was doing. Her drunkenness adds further to the impression that the death sentence given the Negroes might have been based on poor evidence, or hasty, incomplete court processes. The entire atmosphere of the defense of the Negroes seems surcharged with "sensations," publicity and press-agentry, rather than the calm, judicial legal attitude which must prevail if justice eventually is to be secured.

Calm, dispassionate reasoning and sincere legal efforts, aimed only at justice, alone can secure a new trial for the defendants. The International Labor Defense's arrogant exclusion of other legal assistance, its stirring up of sensations and prejudices, and its efforts to secure publicity for itself, seriously hampers the work for justice. Such efforts heighten the impression many thinkers have already hinted at—that the International Labor Defense is willing for the Negroes to die as fuel for the propaganda machines of the Communist organization.

"You can't mix Communism with law," says Mr. Darrow.

Is the International Labor Defense working for or against these Scottsboro defendants? We think that a fair question to ask.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.
POST

JAN 18 1932

WITHIN A RING OF STEEL

Appeal in the Scottsboro case is scheduled to reach the supreme court Thursday. It is fortunate for the eight convicted negroes, whose lives are at stake, that the high court sits in an atmosphere of calm detachment; it is fortunate for the state of Alabama, whose reputation is at stake, that its highest court deliberates at remote intellectual heights. It would be sad indeed, if the opinions of this body should be affected by the cross winds of prejudice and selfish interests that have blown across this case from the start.

Out of the welter of hate, bias, prejudice, misinformation and loose talk that has all but obscured the real issues in this case, two unassailable facts emerge. One is that eight negroes were tried in a court room ringed about with the steel of militia bayonets beyond which a mob, orderly though it was, made its presence known to the jury. The other is that the interests of the eight negroes, which happens to be their existence, have been obscured by the bitterness that has arisen between two contending factions.

The fate of the eight negroes has become a side show. The main attraction is the battle royal between the Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the International Labor Defense (Communist). The issue, purportedly, is the right to conduct the defense of the negroes before the supreme court. The real issue between them, we believe, is something different. In both instances, it is a desire to use this case as a means to advance organization interests.

The position of the association seems to us as merely stupid, the position of the Communists sinister. No observing and discerning person would believe that it is justice the Communists are interested in, but opportunity. It is not the principle of liberty and equity that is uppermost, but the chance to stir hatreds, to sow the whirl-wind of discord. If the consideration and decision in the case of these negroes should leave a lingering doubt as to whether justice has been done, the event will synchronize with the loosening of a ferocious and inflammable propaganda.

We would like to see the appeal of these negroes pleaded before the supreme court by the ablest legal talent available. Justice demands that; common sense recommends it. We have no particular individual in mind. We had hoped Mr. Darrow would go through with his contemplated argument before the court. That he has withdrawn because of the Communist taint is only further evidence of the premise established here.

NEW YORK TIMES

JAN 18 1932

AID NEGRO DEFENSE FUND.

Audience at Protest Meeting Here Gives $300 for Nine Alabama Boys.

More than $300 was contributed for the defense of the nine Scottsboro Negro boys, under sentence of death in Alabama, at a protest meeting yesterday at the New School of Social Research, 66 West Twelfth Street, under the auspices of the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners. The appeal for a new trial will come up before the Supreme Court of Alabama Thursday.

The speakers included Mrs. Viola Montgomery, mother of Olin Montgomery, 17 years old, one of the boys facing the electric chair; Paul Sifton, playwright; Forrest Bailey, director of the American Civil Liberties Union; Eugene Gordon, Boston newspaper man; Lowell Wakefield and Irving Schwab of counsel for the defense. Charles Rumford Walker, author, presided.

It was disclosed that all the funds available for the defense had been exhausted and that unless those interested in the cause of justice aided the defense, the nine minors were doomed to certain death. The speakers charged that the conviction of the boys was the result of "a frame-up" and reviewed the facts of the case to show that they were wholly innocent of the charges against them and that they did not receive a fair trial.

Scottsboro Case Appeal Is Set for Tomorrow

Eight Negro Youths Convicted of Attacking Two White Girls to Have New Hearing in Montgomery, Ala.; Communist Organizations Employ Lawyers for Their Defense

By George H. Watson

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.

ACTIVITY of Communists, Negro associations and liberal leaders of both America and Europe in behalf of eight young Alabama Negroes sentenced to death for attacks on two white girls near Scottsboro, Ala., has centered interest in the case and in arguments for a new trial to be presented before the state Supreme Court at Montgomery on Monday.

The defendants have a super-abundance of legal talent and a dispute has arisen between the International Labor Defense, a Communist organization, which early interested itself in the case, and the National Association for the Advancement of the Colored Race for the privilege of representing the condemned men. At the instance of the latter organization Clarence Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hays, veteran lawyers of the Dayton, Tenn., evolution trials and other famous court battles, were recently in Alabama looking into the case of the Negroes, but on leaving declared they were unwilling to join in the defense if they were forced to work under the direc- of the Communist organization.

Defense, headed by George W. amblee, formerly Attorney General of Tennessee, have the case well in hand and will appear before the Supreme Court at Montgomery to ask for a new trial for the defendants. Associated with him are Joseph Bradsky, a former magistrate of New York City; Irving Schwab, Allen Taub, Carol King and William Tauber, all of New York City.

Facts Given at Trial

Out of the maze of reports concerning the case the following facts appeared as undisputed at the trial:

On the afternoon of Wednesday, March 25, 1931, about a dozen Negroes engaged in a fight with about six white boys on a freight train near Stevenson, in Jackson County, of which Scottsboro is the county seat. All but one of the white boys were thrown or jumped from the train when the Negroes showed weapons. At Paint Rock, fifty miles from Stevenson, but still in Jackson County, nine Negroes were arrested by a posse that had been assembled when some of the white boys reported at Stevenson the fight. The posse then believed only the Negroes had thrown the white youths from the train.

Two white girls, riding on the freight train with the white boys, were allegedly attacked. No Negro has confessed any part in the attack as far as oncerned himself. The Negroes are all oung, but there is a dispute as to hether the ages given at the trial, anging from fourteen to twenty-one, re correct. Both girls live in the mill illages near Huntsville, Ala. One gave er age as twenty-one and said she had een married twice. Her first husband dead, she said, and she is separated om the second. The other girl said he was seventeen. At the trial both said they had been to Chattanooga looking for work.

The Negroes were taken to the county jail at Scottsboro. A crowd estimated at 300 or less surrounded the jail that night. Sheriff Wann attempted to spirit the Negroes away, but all lights on his cars had been disconnected. About 9 p. m. Governor Miller was called and before midnight Major Joe Starns, of Guntersville, was at the jail with about twenty-five National Guardsmen. By that time, however, the crowd was largely gone home, driven in part by the severe cold. The Negroes were taken the next afternoon to Gadsden for safekeeping.

The grand jury was called into extra session March 30. The next day twenty indictments were returned charging the Negroes with attack. Each of the nine Negroes were indicted for a separate attack on each girl and then were charged jointly with an attack on each.

Trial of the defendants began April 6, twelve days after the alleged assault. Four trials were held, some of the cases being grouped. All were given the death penalty except Roy Wright, who gave his age as fourteen. The jury in his case was unable to agree. All trials, with the exception of two, were finished by Wednesday evening and the defendants carried away.

A large crowd, estimated variously from a few hundred to 10,000, attended the trial. More than 100 National Guardsmen were stationed around the courthouse with machine guns, tear bombs and ordinary arms.

Upon arraignment of the Negroes, Judge E. A. Hawkins appointed members of the Scottsboro bar as counsel for the Negroes. However, only one attorney of Scottsboro, Milo Moody, participated to any degree in the defense. At the opening of the trial Stephen Roddy, Chattanooga attorney, appeared as a representative, he said, of "interested persons." Later he said he was employed by the International Ministers Alliance of Chattanooga.

As the story spread that eight Negro boys, still in their 'teens, penniless, friendless, away from home and without paid counsel were being "railroaded" to the electric chair, various organizations interested themselves in the case, with the result that the defendants are now represented by almost a superfluity of legal counsel.

Since the trial protests have been received from organizations and individuals of Germany, England, France, Switzerland, Canada, Cuba and a number of South American countries.

Outstanding in the list of notable protestants to Governor Miller are the names of Albert Einstein, Thomas Mann, Kaethe Kollwitz and Alfonso Goldschmidt.

The charges that have been made of a failure to give the Negroes justice hinge for the most part around two points: First, feeling was such that a trial was impossible. Second, the shortness of the time between the arrest and the trial made out of the question any fair and just preparation for defense. Doubt is expressed as to the real guilt of the boys and the charge is made that the affair is only "lynching sublimated by legality."

Officials Give Stand

Officials handling the case declare that the defendants so far have had access to every judicial process to which any man is entitled. As to a lynch atmosphere prevailing they call attention to the fact that neither the white girls or the Negroes were residents of Jackson County, so that interest in the county was impersonal.

Jackson County, according to the 1930 census, had a white population of 34,180 and a Negro population of only 2,699, which is a small proportion for an Alabama county. Animosity of Alabama residents has been directed against Communists rather than Negroes in the case. It is claimed that the Communists have more interest in entrenching the organization among the Negroes of the South than it has in helping the defendants. Clarence Darrow, in announcing he could not enter the case in association with the International Labor Defense, said:

"Tactics of the Communists have aroused prejudice in Alabama against the defendants. It would have been grossly unfair for me to have had anything to do with prejudicing the case further. I have no quarrel with the Communists as such, but I couldn't work with a Communist organization in this case.

"Threatening letters, I was informed, had been sent to Alabama officials in connection with the case. Communists have held mass meetings and prejudice has been aroused.

"That isn't the way to try a law case. I have no objection to any man's politics, but you can't mix politics with law. If we were going to save those boys we had to save them in Alabama, not in Russia, or New York."

NEW YORK TIMES

JAN 22 1932

DENOUNCES THREATS ON NEGROES' APPEALS

Alabama Judge Says "Bombardment" of Letters Will Not Affect Decision on Condemned Men.

Special to The New York Times.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Jan. 21.—Denouncing efforts at "browbeating" the State Supreme Court by sympathizers of the eight Negroes who were sentenced in Scottsboro to die for an attack in March on two white girls, Chief Justice John C. Anderson declared today, in opening the hearing on appeal, that the court would not be influenced in this way.

Three attorneys representing the International Labor Defense League presented the case for the appellants. Their arguments will be completed tomorrow morning and the State's case will be presented by Thomas E. Knight Jr., the Attorney General of Alabama.

Telling of a "bombardment" of telegrams, letters and resolutions seeking to influence the court, Chief Justice Anderson went on:

"These messages are highly improper, inflammatory and revolutionary in their nature and were sent with the evident intent to bulldoze this court."

George W. Chamble, chief counsel for the appellants, expressed regret that efforts to intimidate the court had been made, but disclaimed responsibility for the messages.

The testimony of the State's principal witness, one of the girls assaulted, was assailed as contradictory, and the accuracy of her identification of the appellants was questioned.

The fact that no Negro was on the grand jury which indicted the defendants or on the petit juries that convicted them was pointed to as a denial of legal rights.

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment for Rape.

3737

Alabama

FAMOUS LAWYERS COME TO ALA. IN SCOTTSBORO CASE; SUPREME COURT TO HEAR ARGUMENT

Reporter

Birmingham, Ala

1-2-32

Unusual interest was stirred anew this week in the Scottsboro case, where eight Negro youths were sentenced to death for allegedly attacking two white girls, when Clarence Darrow, of Chicago, and Arthur Garfield Hays, of New York, famous lawyers, came to Alabama to confer with local counsel in behalf of the youths.

Mr. Darrow and Mr. Hays were retained by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to defend the eight boys when their appeal for a new trial is argued before the Alabama Supreme Court Jan. 18.

Many other agencies are interested in the case, and the International Labor Defense attorneys have filed briefs and contend that the defendants and their relatives have retained the I. L. D. counsel to represent them. As a result there has been waged a bitter controversy between the I. L. D. and the N. A. A. C. P. as to which organization would handle the defense. Messrs. Hayes and Darrow, it is said, conferred with I. L. D. attorneys while in Birmingham as to a means of dropping organization interests by both sides and all cooperating to form counsel for the defendants. The suggestion was not well taken by I. L. D. lawyers, and failing in an attempt to get Messrs. Darrow and Hayes to join the I. L. D. group, the conference ended with nothing gained, except Mr. Darrow and Mr. Hayes stating that under no circumstances would they join the I. L. D. forces as such, and I. L. D. attorneys stating that they could not join the N. A. A. C. P. lawyers.

Before leaving Tuesday night Mr. Hays made this statement:

"The clarification of the differences in the Scottsboro case is this: Mr. Darrow and I, believing that innocent men have been convicted, were brought into this case to help the defendants.

"We are not interested in organizations or causes; we deem it the duty of lawyers to represent their clients and no one else.

"The sole responsibility here is to these colored boys. We have no criticism of any organization that may wish to help. We may disapprove of their tactics but that does not concern us directly as lawyers, except as to the possible effect on our clients. But we will engage in no controversy between organizations.

"The interest of Mr. Darrow and myself was enlisted by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The interest of Mr. Chamlee was enlisted by the International Labor Defense. But in our view, that should make no difference since all the attorneys should represent only the defendant. If the other lawyers don't feel that way and if the defendants want them, we are through, with feelings of regret that we cannot help but with feelings of relief at escaping the grave responsibility.

The matter may be straightened out before the cases are heard, but if we appear at all, it must be in recognition of the fact that we represent only the defendants and will be guided wholly by our judgment as to what is best for them."

The Mr. Chamlee referred to is George W. Chamlee, Sr., Chattanooga, former attorney general of Tennessee, who is one of the five I. L. D. lawyers representing the defendants, and who conferred with Darrow and Hays here.

The boys, it is said, have notified Darrow and Hays that their help is desired if they are willing to join with the I. L. D. attorneys, who have filed their names with the Alabama Supreme Court as counsel.

Hearing of the appeal for new trials is set for Jan. 21 in Montgomery.

If a rehearing of the cases is granted a motion for change of venue will be entered in an effort to bring the trial to some larger city, most probably Birmingham or Montgomery.

Didn't Ask for Case

Mr. Darrow left for Chicago at noon Tuesday after declaring the idea of him fighting to get a case was "absurd." He said he had never asked for a case.

"If Mr. Darrow or other defense lawyers wish to confer with the defendants in the Scottsboro case, every courtesy will be shown them," Gov. Miller said. "The eight boys are held in death row and are being shown the same consideration given every man in Kilby Prison."

Roy Wright, the ninth boy whose case resulted in a mistrial, is held in Jefferson County Jail. It was indicated by I. L. D. attorneys that his release would be sought through habeas corpus proceedings.

REFUSES TO ASSOCIATE WITH I. L. D.

Journal & Guide

Motions For New Trials Before Ala. Supreme Court Jan. 21

1-2-32

LEAVES FOR CHICAGO

Norfolk, Va.

Arthur Garfield Hayes Upholds Famous Lawyer's Action

BULLETIN

The Journal and Guide Wednesday morning telegraphed the national office of the N. A. A. C. P. in New York to have verified the dispatch coming from Montgomery concerning the withdrawal of Attorneys Darrow and Hays from the Scottsboro Case; but up to 3 p. m. no reply was received.

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—The fate of eight youths held in the death house at State's prison here pending action on their appeals for new trials in connection with alleged attacks on two white girls, became doubly uncertain Tuesday when Clarence Darrow of Chicago, representing the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, refused to associate himself with the [redacted]tional Labor Defense (Communist) in behalf of the boys.

Arthur Garfield Hays of New York, likewise employed by the N. A. A. C. P., to argue the motions before the Alabama Supreme Court January 21, joined Darrow in saying they would consider acting independent of the association if the other attorneys would sever their connection with the International Labor Defense.

Action "Impossible"

When informed that this action was "impossible" Mr. Darrow immediately left for Chicago, saying he would not consider entering the case in any way so long as a Communist organization was connected with it. He was quoted as saying, "we entered the case on humanitarian principles and not to further any political cause."

"The defendants and their parents, together with the International Labor Defense, have retained me as counsel," said George M. Chamlee of Chattanooga, Tenn., who was employed as chief defense counsel by the I. L. D." "Although I have several assistants such as my son, and Messrs. Schwob, Brodsky and Taub of New York, and would welcome the entrance of any reputable attorney on the basis of complete cooperation, I feel I cannot break the faith with my clients to the extent of inviting the cooperation of anyone who entered the case as the representative of the Nation Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

"This position is in keeping with the demands of the boys, their parents and next of kin."

So important is the case that Thomas E. Knight, Jr., attorney general has announced that he will appear personally for the State when the case is called.

Mr. Knight will contend that the boys were given a fair trial and that the evidence warranted the sentence meted out. The other counsel will argue exactly opposite and will present witnesses and exhibits to show that the trial took place in prejudiced atmosphere and before an intimidated jury.

The eight boys were imprisoned when the two incorrigible girls who were dressed as men and riding on freight trains accused all eight of the youths of raping them. The International Labor Defense, the N. A. A. C. P., and a large number of liberal papers and organizations have from the beginning discredited the story.

DARROW DESCENDS TO PLATITUDES

Clarence Darrow, probably America's most noted criminal lawyer, whose withdrawal from the defense counsel in the "Scottsboro Negroes" case has probably freed the veteran advocate of an affair in which he could win scant glory, has seen fit to explain further his action to the Associated Press.

Advertiser

"I couldn't enter the case," he said, "except in association with the International Labor Defense, a Communist organization. Tactics of the Communists have aroused prejudice in Alabama against the defendants. It would have been grossly unfair for me to have had anything to do with prejudicing the case further. I have no quarrel with the Communists as such, but couldn't work with a Communist organization in this case."

1-6-32

This plea is convincing, and admirable as a facial preservative. It is rather strange that this matter-of-fact lawyer, who has rather prided himself in his nationally known disbeliefs in Santa Claus and other things, should have seen fit in this interview to have given utterance to a popular bromide, as unrealistic as it is platitudinous.

Montgomery Adv.

"You can't mix politics with law," is the profound Darrow pronouncement quoted by the Associated Press.

This glittering generality of stereotyped advice is one not unfamiliar to youths embarking on a legal career. And like most other free advice it is worth exactly what the recipient pays therefor.

Whether for good or ill, it cannot be denied that here in America politics and the law are so closely mixed that the young man desirous of becoming either a statesman or a great barrister finds it hard, not to say impossible, to unscramble the mixture.

It is all very well for the ambitious young attorney to scorn going out on the hustings and to devote his time to that jealous mistress, the Law, in the seclusion of his office. But no matter how carefully he may master his text-books and with what diligence he may study the cases, the world knows little and cares less for such intramural activity. If pursued long enough, such studies will inevitably lead to the ousting of the student and his beloved books onto the pavement by the long-suffering landlord of the shabby little office in which the embryo Blackstone had buried himself. Without political irons in the fire, the young lawyer, lacking access to an estate, either through marriage or through inheritance, is doomed from the start.

The facts speak for themselves. Foreign observers have noted as one outstanding peculiarity of American public life the monopoly the legal profession in America has on public office, Federal, State, county, and municipal—not only in the judicial branch of the government, but in the legislative and executive ones as well.

It is high time that this venerable superstition regarding the non-amalgamation of legal and political interests be retired, along with several other popular fallacies, disproved every day by commonplace experience.

RADICAL A

Amsterdam

GIVEN FULL CHARGE OF DEFENDING BOYS

1-6-32 New York

Amsterdam News

N. A. A. C. P. Quits Scottsboro Case Following Inability to Agree on Co-operation With I. L. D.—Darrow and Hays Withdraw

After months of conflicting efforts on the part of the International Labor Defense, Communist organization, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to save the eight Scottsboro boys from the electric chair, the latter organization announced from its headquarters here Thursday its withdrawal from the defense when efforts to effect a joint defense failed.

In a statement issued by the N. A. A. C. P. blame for the withdrawal of Clarence Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hays, who were retained by that organization to defend the boys, was placed upon the Communists, whom they accused of "insisting upon complete control of the legal battle and who declined co-operation with attorneys not controlled by the Communists."

At the same time the I. L. D. issued a statement that "Clarence Darrow withdrew from the Scottsboro case after refusing to co-operate with attorneys for the International Labor Defense and after demanding that these lawyers, chosen by the eight boys, should withdraw from the appeal." George Maurer, assistant secretary of the I. L. D., further charged that the N. A. A. C. P. "has attempted to get Darrow and Hays into the case under false pretenses and has been saying that the I. L. D. has been ousted from the defense because the pleas of our attorney, George W. Chamlee of Chattanooga, were 'defective' and because 'he is not an attorney of record in the case.'"

Conference Fails.

After an all night session in Birmingham between Chamlee and his associate counsel retained by the I. L. D. and Darrow, Hays and the southern representatives retained by the N. A. A. C. P., no working agreement was reached. According to statement of the N. A. A. C. P., Hays and Darrow were willing to enter the case on the following basis: "We represent the defendants. We represent no organization. The lives of the eight boys are at stake. It is unimportant who enlisted our interest. We will not engage in controversy between groups. We have agreed to work together to try to save these boys and our responsibility is to them and to them only." This proposal, the N. A. A. C. P. alleges, was rejected by the I. L. D. attorneys.

Previously the boys had sent Darrow and Hays a telegram from Kilby prison in Montgomery where they are confined deprecating the entrance of the N. A. A. C. P. in the case and calling upon Darrow and Hays to cooperate with the I. L. D. attorneys, "We have already got the International Labor Defense and jointly employed Mr. George W. Chamlee and some other lawyers who are helping Mr. Chamlee and the I. L. D.," the statement read. "We do not want you to come and fight the I. L. D. and make trouble for Mr. Chamlee just to help the N. A. A. C. P. If you want to save us and help us get a new trial please help the I. L. D. and Mr Chamlee. Our parents and kinfolk signed papers yesterday from Mr. Chamlee and the I. L. D to file in the Supreme Court that Mr Chamlee and the I. L. D. are retained by all of us who fight our cases."

Case Up January 18.

Petitions for a new trial and change of venue will be argued Monday, January 18. before the Supreme Court of Alamba. Should the petitions be denied, the I. L. D. has said that the case will be taken to the Supreme Court of the United States.

Scored by Biographer.

"It is inconceivable," Charles Yale Harrison, author of a recent biography of Darrow, said last Wednesday, "that Mr. Darrow should turn his back on the Scottsboro eight, who, while ostensibly charged with a criminal capital offense, are victims of Jim Crow justice. It is unthinkable that a man of Mr. Darrow's stature should have stepped out of the defense not because he doubted the innocence of the condemned youths but because of politcal pressure brought to bear upon him."

Harrison urged Darrow to reconsider his withdrawal and enter the case in behalf of the boys. "All your life you have shown a readiness to asknowledge yourself in the wrong when circumstances warranted. I hope you will do so again and go back to Birmingham and help defend the lads."

White Admits N.A.A.C.P. Is Out of Scottsboro Defense

Daily Worker 1-6-32

Boys and Parents Firm in Barring White and Negro Lackeys of Imperialists

New York

NEW YORK.—Admission that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was out of the Scottsboro case was made Sunday night by Walter White, national secretary of the organization, at its annual meeting at St. Marks Church, 138th Street and St. Nicholas Avenue.

The announcement came as a result of the firm attitude of the nine boys, their parents and other kin and of the tremendous mass pressure of Negro and white workers against the traitorous activities of the reformist NAACP leadership, who have done everything in their power to disrupt the defense of the boys and strangle the mass defense movement which alone can save and FREE the nine innocent boys

. White admitted Sunday that Clarence Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hays had been informed by the boys that they could not participate in the defense as attorneys of the NAACP. The boys plainly told them that they had no confidence in the NAACP, whose acknowledged attorney, Stehen Boddy, had tried to get them to plead guilty to a crime they did not commit. Darrow and Hayes were advised to co-operate with the attorneys engaged by the boys, their family and the International Labor Defense if they really wished to help defeat the lynch verdicts against the boys. This the "liberal" attorneys refused to do.

White tried to explain the rejection of the NAACP by the Scottsboro boys with the slander that the boys were too ignorant to know what sort of defense they wanted. The boys have clearly stated that they want to fight, that they will not permit themselves to be forced to plead guilty of a crime they did not commit, and that the only defense they want is the militant defense of the International Labor Defense, backed by millions of white and Negro revolutionary workers throughout the world.

While admitting that the NAACP had withdrawn from the case, Walter White made no reference to the large sums of money his organization has collected on the false pretense that they were defending the boys. The rank and file members of the NAACP must raise the demand that this money be turned over to the Scottsboro Defense Committee. The Negro and white workers throughout the country must make this demand.

Fearing the anger of militant Negro workers who are familiar with their attempt to betray the boys, the NAACP misleaders had a huge police guard around the church while the meeting was in progress. In spite of the presence of the police, members of the League of Struggle for Negro Rights distributed leaflets inside and outside the building, demanding that the NAACP turn over the funds collected in the name fo the Scottsboro boys, and challenging white and other NAACP misleaders to defend their conduct before the Negro and white workers at the Jan. 10 mass meeting at Star Casino, Park Avenue and 107th St. At this meeting, Gen. George W. Chamlee, Irving Schwab and Joseph Brodsky, three of the ILD attorneys in the case, will report on the present status of the case.

THE NEGRO AND THE SCOTTSBORO MUDDLE

Reporter

There is hardly any question but that the conviction of eight Negro boys in Scottsboro, Alabama, last April is fraught with some travesty of justice. The unreasonableness of the preponderance of evidence against them is to be weighed in the light of its source, and as well, in the light of the impracticability and inability of these boys to perform such acts as charged. There is no question but that clean, talented, intelligent and well-versed counsel is needed for them.

Birmingham, Ala

There is every reason to believe that the boys are now without proper representation. And, if for any cause whatever Mr. Clarence Darrow, Mr. Garfield Hays and local attorneys of this city are kept from representing these defendants, we may expect for them nothing less than the electric chair. Communists and the International Labor Defense are no doubt the wrong institutions to be appearing in a case of this kind. This is a case where only justice should be sought and in that the lives of eight human beings are to be saved. It is not a case at all for speculation or advertisement, nor should it take the course of any form of scheming to get money or to build a reputation. This is in no sense to question the character of the lawyers representing these organizations, but it is to criticize the kind of program the labor organization has been carrying on.

1-2-32

Of all races in America, the Negro can least afford to find himself in company, either directly or indirectly, with any force of a destructive or radical nature. If he makes it at all it must come through strong and sensible appeals for justice and fair play. He has been used long enough as wards, tools and fortresses in building for other races and when the peril comes he is the only, or the greater sufferer.

There is hardly any reason at all why Mr. Darrow, Mr. Hays and local attorneys should not be privileged, unmolested and unchallenged by anyone, to represent the interest of these poor, ignorant and unprotected Negro boys.

It is an ugly situation; one that requires the prayerful attention of the race throughout the nation, and the best judgment and counsel of the people we are to live with. Many, many fine white people are in sympathy with our cause, but there are things we must do for ourselves before their sympathies can avail us much. Peculiar views are expressed about the Negro by the opposite race, and they are found north, south, east and west. The black man forms an acute situation in the life and work of the American people. He has made for the dominant race a social, political and economic question for more than three hundred years, with the views of the administrators, law-givers and executors unreligiously divided.

There would hardly be any question as to the course to be taken if these were white boys and girls, or white boys and black girls.

If the Negro wishes to save the state and race of a disgrace, there are many things he can do in checking this muddle and deciding the question as to who should represent the boys before the Supreme Court.

Lynchings-1932

Alabama

3738

Legal Punishment for Rape

Scottsboro, Afraid of CourtRoom, Crowds Around Outside Windows

Afro-American 2-6-32

Only Colored Person in the Room is AFRO-AMERICAN Correspondent. Whites of Town Stare at "Red" Attorneys but Do Not Molest them. Scotsboro Court Certain Not to Grant New Trial, but I.L.D. will Carry the Case Higher.

By PAUL PETERS

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — What does the South think of the Scottsboro case?

The white people who have thought about it at all are beginning to admit, reluctantly, that the nine boys got a "raw deal." Nevertheless as one Alabaman asked me in the hotel lobby:

"Do you really want those niggers to win?"

"If they're innocent, do you really want to see nine kids killed?" I replied.

"Well, they ought to make an example out of somebody."

The colored bellboy, talking to the lawyers up in the hotel room, put it this way:

If Times "Was" Better

"Well, sir, if times was better around here, they might let those boys go. But times are awful hard down here, awful hard. You can get out here ten minutes from this hotel and find colored folks actually starving."

Yes, the Scottsboro case has made a deep impression on the South. The South is squirming and writhing, it bellows "Red" and "Nigger-lover"; yet here it is, face to face with something powerful and new, and something that has it very much frightened.

Another Rope

At first the South looked upon Scottsboro as just another "Negro rape" case. This one was slightly more thrilling than most, because here were nine victims instead of one, and all of them younger than usual. They called the boys "black fiends" and "Negro brutes" and clamored for "quick justice"—meaning wholesale slaughter.

Then the "Reds" went to work. Bit by bit, by public exposure, by legal argument, by demonstrations, protests, publicity campaigns, the International Labor Defense focused the eyes of the whole world upon that one little self-satisfied town in Alabama, People began to read the court records, to gather information, to ask embarrassing questions. "This isn't a trial," they cried. "This is a lynching. This is murder! These boys are innocent!"

The South did not like this. Nobody before had dared tell them "how to treat our niggers." Nobody before had dared to question the verdicts of [illegible] courts. It was a new and terrible thing for the South to be caught red-handed before the whole world like this; to find itself fought tooth and nail by a powerful, organized movement of colored as well as white. Who ever before had dared to stand up in the South for poor, unknown, uneducated colored boys?

Jim Crow at the Trial

Colored people were jim-crowed at the trial. A lone correspondent for the Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN was allowed to sit in the court room.

Yet hundreds of them had the courage to crowd about the doors and the windows and catch what they could of this event—a new one in their experience. Black faces everywhere pushed against the screens of the old-fashioned Southern building. When the attorneys went down the streets, colored people everywhere turned and watched them. Some shook the lawyers' hands. Others, if we stopped a moment on the corners, would come up and offer direction. Still others came up to talk to us in the hotel rooms. Brodsky was invited to speak at several meetings.

Whites Only Slave

The whites in town did not molest us, though I got a pretty thorough staring-at when I walked down the main street talking to a colored newspaperman. In general, we were handled with silk gloves. After the hearing, lawyers crowded about Brodsky and Chamlee. The chief justice came off the bench and shook hands with them.

Election of Judges

"The law is with you," a correspondent for a Birmingham paper told us. "Nobody who is honest thinks these boys had a chance in Scottsboro. But you musn't forget that three of those four justices come up for re-election in May. Do you know what it is to go out for election in the small towns of Alabama and have somebody yell 'nigger-lover' at you? That's political suicide."

Then again, as the bellboy said, times are hard in Alabama. The white people on top are beginning to hear the rumbling and growling of the whites, and especially, the blacks below. The "nigger has to be kept in his place." And when times are hard, rough measures may be needed to help him there. "You got to make an example out of somebody."

On the other hand, the South is afraid of being too openly exposed, afraid of the roar of indignation and fury that will arise—with all eyes focused on Scottsboro and Montgomery—if they dare send the boys to their death.

Such things have to be done in quiet. And the quiet in which colored boys in the South are callously sentenced to die on the old worn-out rape frame-up, has once and for all been destroyed.

That is what makes the Scottsboro case one of the most important and far-reaching cases of this century.

DEFENSE BRANDS ALABAMA GIRLS AS PROSTITUTES

Frame-Up Charged in Case of 8 Condemned Scottsboro Boys.

Afro-American

NO COLORED MEN ON JURY

2-6-32

Court May Decide Appeal Within Month.

(STAFF CORRESPONDENCE)

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—An attack upon the injustice of excluding colored jurors from service and an insistence that charges of an attack on the two white girl prostitutes in the case represent a deliberate frame-up against the eight Scottsboro youths under sentence of death for the alleged crime, were highlights presented by defense attorneys in their appeal for a new trial made before the Alabama Supreme Court here last week.

Arguments for a new trial were based upon charges that the first trial was marked by mob hysteria and insufficiency of the evidence. It is very probable that the court will not hand down a decision before two or three weeks, with the possibility of an even longer interval before a ruling is made.

Say Boys Railroaded

Three defense lawyers, representing the I.L.D., stood here in the building which once housed the government of the Confederacy and argued that the eight boys under sentence are being brutally and inhumanly railroaded to death in a Southern court, which was packed and jammed with curiosity-hungry mob of spectators.

George W. Chamlee, white Chattanooga attorney, opened the argument of the defense with the assertion that the boys, accused of attacking Ruby Bates and Victoria Price, two hobo girls, on a freight train, went to their first trial without advice and faced a jury and court swayed by mob hysteria.

Girls in Same Jail

"The white women," he said, "were arrested and put in the same jail with these boys. How strange! If they had been attacked, why place them in jail with their attackers? They were not examined until the following day, and at the time of examination showed no signs of nervousness or fear.

"Is it natural for a virtuous woman to act so normally after having been criminally assaulted and outraged? Why weren't they taken to a hospital? These girls were held in jail from the day of the arrest to the day of the last trial. Virtuous girls, outraged girls—ravished by eight terrible colored boys, held in jail instead of being sent to the hospital!"

White Boys Don't Testify

Mr. Chamlee also brought out that not a single one of the white boys on the train at the time of the alleged attack, was presented as a witness or testified in court. "Why weren't these boys called to testify?" he shouted. "They could have been the state's chief witnesses. No, there was nothing for them to testify about."

Irving Schwab, New York attorney, who followed Mr. Chamlee, attacked the character and reputation of the girls, Ruby Bates and Victoria Price.

Calls Girls Prostitutes

"I charge that they were common, ordinary prostitutes, selling their wares to the public," he said, "to colored and white alike. Nothing they say is to be believed by sober men."

Mr. Schwab then analysed the evidence of the trials. "Not only were these eight boys not guilty of the crime with which these girls charge them," he maintained, "but we contend that no such crime was committed on that freight train."

He then showed how the stories of the two girls contradicted each other and even their own stories on different occasions. "No other witness testified to the attack on the girls except the girls themselves," he declared.

New evidence collected by the defense utterly destroyed this story, the lawyer said. Fifteen affidavits from Huntsville, Ala., and Chattanooga, Tenn., where the girls are well known, describe the girls as prostitutes who have lived with colored men.

Fireman Saw Girls

Percy Hicks, the fireman on the freight train on which the girls were traveling at the time of the alleged assault, swore that he saw them in a box car and not a gondola. Later, the lawyer said, Hicks swore to seeing them running away from the train at Paint Rock. He had also seen them a week previous, bumming their way to Chattanooga.

This statement tore to pieces the girls' version of what happened; since the attack of the boys, "who jumped from another car into the gondola car," could then never have happened. Schwab said that the Scottsboro court had excluded all testimony as to the character of these girls, although it was their evidence alone upon which the boys were convicted.

No Colored on Jury

Joseph R. Brodsky made the final plea for the defense. He contended that the trial was dominated by mob spirit and hysteria which terrorized the jury, the judge, and even the defense lawyers. His second point was that "due process of law" was denied because all colored persons were excluded from the jury. This point was raised for a possible appeal, if necessary, to the U.S. Supreme Court. His third point, said Brodsky, was that as a juvenile under 16 years of age, Eugene Williams was sentenced to death by a court which had no authority whatever to try him.

Thomas E. Knight, prosecutor for the state, followed Brodsky. He is the son of a justice sitting on the Supreme Court bench and was here arguing before his own father.

A small, nervous, red-faced man with a peaked face, Knight gave a fiery talk, full of Southern bombast, punctuated by repeated rappings on the table. He referred to the boys throughout the trial as "niggers."

He spent considerable time citing laws to bolster his contention that no evidence as to the character of the girls was permissible in the trial. The defense had contended that only the testimony of the girls convicted the boys; and if these girls had untrustworthy characters, their testimony was worthless. At one point, K ht denied that there was any ra prejudice in Alabama. and e no attempt to answer Brod- questions as to why his case ot first been submitted to a e court.

Hostility Shown

short rebuttal, Chamlee read fidavits in the court records stated that there were demon- ns inside and outside the urtroom against the boys and that e jurors could see and hear these acts of hostility.

Several hundred colored persons crowded the window ledges and the doorways during the second day of the hearing.

BOMB PLOT AIMED AT ALABAMA CHIEF

Statehouse Under Heavy Guard as Threatened Outrage Is Disclosed.

LETTER IS KEPT SECRET

Full Contents Not Revealed as Officials Refuse to Comment. Attack Case and Lashing Possible Motives.

Memphis Commercial Appeal

1/27/32

By The Associated Press.

MONTGOMERY, Jan. 26.—A plot to bomb Alabama's historic capitol revealed in a letter to a state official caused guards to be posted in the statehouse today. The Associated Press was authoritatively informed tonight.

A state official, who wished his name withheld, said that the letter was sent to John Brandon, state auditor, by a man in Birmingham, who said that he overheard four men in a depot there plotting the bombing.

Full Contents Not Revealed.

The bombing, the state official quoted the letter as saying, was set for either today or tomorrow and had as its intended victims Gov. B. M. Miller, William F. Feagin, director of the state board of administration; John Peach, legal adviser to the governor, and Roy Nolan, assistant director of the state convict department.

Full contents of the letter were not made known but the state official said that the leader of the qaurtet was described by the writer as being swarthy and was called "Joe" by his companions.

According to the conversation, the letter said that the bomb was to have been brought to the capital by automobile and secreted near the state house.

The state audior was said to have delivered the letter immediately to Governor Miller and the guard, consisting of more than a dozen plain clothes men from the Montgomery police department and Kilby prison was stationed at points of vantage about the capitol.

Governor Miller and the other state officials declined to discuss the letter but the chief executive said that the guard would be posted at the capitol again tomorrow.

No Cause Assigned.

No cause for the contemplated plot was assigned in the letter, the state official said.

Numerous threatening communications have been received by Governor Miller, members of the state supreme court and Thomas E. Knight, Jr., attorney general, demanding "immedaite release" of eight young negroes sentenced to death in the Scottsboro attack case.

Similar letters were addressed to the chief executive following the lashing of James C. Kerby at the Atmore state prison farm for refusal to work.

After his release from the prison he entered a hosptial for treatment and several organizations in the state have since appealed for abolishment of the lash in penal institutions.

Today was the monthly parole day at the capitol and the usual large crowds filled the outer executive offices seeking clemency for friends and relatives in state prisons.

Governor Miller worked steadily at his desk, issuing 15 good behavior paroles.

GIRL SAYS SH LIED ON YOUTHS AT SCOTTSBORO

Afro-American

1/23/32

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn.—Police of Huntsville, Ala., are said to be trying to suppress a letter written by Ruby Bates in which she is said to admit that she lied against the eight Scottsboro youths who are awaiting a new trial on charges of attacking her and a companion, Victoria Price, both accused of prostitution.

The letter, said to have been written by the Bates girl to her lover, states that the boys never touched her. It was obtained from her by Miron Pearlman, a worker, who was later arrested by Huntsville police, who took the letter from him and terrorized him into stating that he made the girl drunk in order to get her to write the letter.

Cleared of Bribery

Police charged that George W. Chamlee, chief of counsel for the International Labor Defense, bribed Pearlman to get the girl drunk. Chamlee, however, was cleared of the fake bribery and frame-up charges by George Proctor, special writer for the New Masses, a New York magazine.

Proctor, in a public statement, declared that he sent Pearlman to Huntsville to gather evidence and denied that he instructed the latter to get the girl intoxicated. He has further charged the Huntsville police with suppressing evidence and has demanded the publication of the letter. Pearlman has admitted that Chamlee never gave him any money and his lawyers declare that the Chattanooga News is exerting pressure upon him to prevent his telling the truth.

Stephen Roddy, N.A.A.C.P. attorney, has withdrawn from the case, his action following that of Clarence Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hays, who were employed by the N.A.A.C.P. to assist in the defense of the Scottsboro youths.

Jail Pittsburgh Workers for Protesting Scottsboro Verdicts

2,000 London Workers Demonstrate In World-Wide Demand for Release of Innocent Negro Boys

BULLETIN

NEW YORK.—A $5,000 fund to continue the defense of the Scottsboro boys is being raised by the International Labor Defense. That money will be needed to carry on this now internationally famous case, whichever way the Alabama Supreme Court decides, is pointed out by J. Louis Engdahl, secretary of the I. L. D. A favorable decision will throw the case back to the lower courts for a new trial; and an adverse decision will mean an appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court, says Engdahl. Contributions to save the boys' lives should be sent to the Scottsboro Defense Fund, Room 430, 80 East 11th St., New York City.

* * *

Daily Worker

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Feb. 5.—Twelve Negro and white workers were sentenced to ten or thirty days in jail here for demonstrating against the Scottsboro death verdicts on the day of the Supreme Court hearing. Similar demonstrations were held under the auspices of the International Labor Defense and the League of Struggle for Negro Rights in over 100 American cities.

2-6-32

LONDON, England, Feb 4.— Two thousand workers her emarched from the Thames to Hyde Park, where they held demonstrations against the Scottsboro death verdict, according to information received by the International Labor Defense. Resolutions demanding freedom of the boys were then delivered by a delegation of English workers to the American embassy.

New York,

BERLIN, Germany, Feb. 4.—A cablegram signed by leading German scientists, writers, authors and artists for the release of the Scottsboro boys, has been sent to Chief Justice Anderson of the Alabama Supreme Court.

NEGROES' LAWYER ABSOLVED IN 'PLOT'

1-15-32

CHATTANOOGA. Jan. [illegible] George Proctor, of [illegible] who said he [illegible] communist publication [illegible] Masses, made public tonight an affidavit absolving George W. Chamlee, attorney, of all charges in connection with the alleged "frame-up" of one of two girls involved in the Scottsboro, Ala., assault case.

Miron Pearlman, Chattanooga prizefighter, recently charged that Chamlee had employed him to get the girl drunk and [illegible] write a letter repudiating evidence [illegible] at the trial of eight negroes charged with attacking the girls. The girl testified the negroes attacked her and the defendants were sentenced to death.

Proctor said he sent Pearlman to Huntsville to get information for articles he was writing about the case. He said Chamlee, an attorney for the condemned negroes, had nothing to do with the plan.

I.L.D. REPORTS $10,000 SPENT AT SCOTTSBORO

Afro-American

2/27/32

NEW YORK.—More than $10,000 has been spent by the International Labor Defense in its battle to save the Scottsboro boys from death, according to an audited statement just issued.

From April till December 31, 1931, total I.L.D. expenditures on the case were $9935.59. This does not include the heavy cost of sending five lawyers to Montgomery, Ala., to argue the appeal.

Contributions from I.L.D. branches, affiliated organizations and individuals amounted to $6681.71, according to George Primoff, certified accountant of New York. The National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners, comprising such men as Theodore Dreiser and Sherwood Anderson, novelists, and other great American figures, endorsed the I.L.D. campaign to free the boys and contributed $2879.56. Total income was $8800.49, leaving a deficit of $1135.10, which was advanced by the national office of the I.L.D.

I.L.D. officials point out that the heaviest expenses must yet be faced. Decision of the Supreme Court will throw the case either back to the lower courts for a new trial or to the Supreme Court of the United States for a new appeal. Those interested in really saving the boys should contribute to the Scottsboro Defense Fund, Room 430, 80 East 11th Street, New York City.

The audited statement of the I.L.D. on the case follows:

From districts of the I.L.D.	$3,463.80		
From other organizations	1,371.09		
From individuals...	2,846.82	$6,681.71	
Deduct Scottsboro campaign expenses:			
Stationery and printing	332.15		
Postage	354.03		
Mailing and advertising	74.60	760.78	
Total income through I.L.D.		5,920.93	
Income from National Committee for Political Prisoners		2,879.56	
Total Income ..			$8800.49
Direct cost of case:			
Transcripts	280.00		
Court and investigation expenses..	2,659.73		
Att'ys fees, traveling expenses	3,514.31		
Prisoners' and parents' relief......	632.92		
Telephone and telegrams	376.16		
Sundry expenses...:	98.65	7,451.77	
Organizational and publicity expenses:			
Printing and stationery	117.85		
Postage	103.66		
Rent	91.50		
Organization and Publicity, publication, and information	698.79	2,159.94	
Expenditures by Southern office (vouchers in transit):		323.88	
Total expenditures			$9,935.59
Excess of expenditures over income advanced by Nat'l Office. I.L.D......			$1,135.10

Lynchings-1932
6
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Alabama

3739

Scottsboro Plea Now With Court

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

Knight Answers Negroes' Defenders; No Decision Likely For Months, Yet

1-23-32

Arguments in the Scottsboro case in which counsel for the eight condemned negroes stressed mob activities at the trial for assault on two white girls as a circumstance that warranted a change of venue by the trial court, were concluded yesterday before the Alabama Supreme Court.

It will probably be several months before decisions will be rendered by the Supreme Court. The first call of all of the dockets of all eight divisions will be completed by the Court today. Beginning with the first of the coming week, the court will be in recess and no more appeals will be submitted until the taking up of the second call of divisions for the present term, which will be on March 21.

During the interim the Court will consider and prepare and write opinions in appealed cases placed before that tribunal during the call that comes to a conclusion today. It is not likely that any decisions will be announced until the next call begins, it is believed.

Knight In Reply

Thomas E. Knight, Jr., attorney general of Alabama, answered the allegations of defense counsel, citing that there was nothing in the record, other than the affidavits of the defendants themselves, to show that any act of hostility was committed by the crowd.

"He termed the gathering as a "crowd of curious and interested spectators" such as might gather at any trial where an unusual crime had been committed and such as was present in the Supreme Court room at this time, "not because they were hostile but because they were curious."

The Attorney General followed Joseph R. Brodsky, chief national counsel for the International Labor Defense League, who closed for the defense.

Brodsky contended that the trial court was in error when it assumed jurisdiction in the trial of Eugene Williams, one of the condemned negroes, whom he said the record showed to be 14 years old at the time of the trial last March. He pointed out that Alabama's laws pertaining to juvenile offenders were "most liberal" and that jurisdiction in all juvenile cases was within the juvenile court or probate court.

Although the age of Williams was called to the attention of the trial court, he alleged, and a motion was made by defense counsel [illegible] the court failed to terminate proceedings as to him and permitted the trial to take place."

Brodsky requested the Attorney General to join with him in a request for the release of Williams. Failure of the court to rule upon the motion to exclude Williams, he said, was further evidence of the speed and pressure under which the trial was conducted.

"It is clear to me," he said, "and I hope it is clear to the court that Eugene Williams has no place in Kilby Prison."

In response to a question from Chief Justice Anderson, Brodsky said the evidence regarding Williams's age "was uncontroverted."

Brodsky's Chief Points

Aside from the claims for reversal because of refusal of the trial court to grant a change of venue and to exclude Williams from the trial, the defense contended that the case should be reversed and remanded on the following grounds:

That the defendants were denied their constitutional right of counsel preceding the trial.

That the preponderance of testimony did not justify the verdict of guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

That new and rellevant evidence had been uncovered since the trial which was not available for the trial.

That no negro was a member of the Grand Jury or the petit juries.

The latter question was raised as one of several proposed as a basis for an appeal to the United States Supreme Court in the event such appeal is desired.

Atty. Gen. Knight chose to allow the issue raised concerning Williams's age to remain with the court without any discussion on his part. In answering the various allegations he did not mention Williams.

Knight Weighs Evidence

Knight prefaced his reply with the statement that "As an officer of this court and Attorney General of the State, I have never asked and do not expect to ask anything but what is right and just."

"While we are thinking of mobs and speedy trials, it is time," he declared, "to give a little thought to justice." He pointed out that the evidence is undisputed that the girls were on the train, that the white men who claimed they were thrown from it were there and that the negroes were there.

"The evidence shows from the mouths of the defendants themselves," he said, "that all of them were on the train." He cited that the offense occurred in the daytime and that it was witnessed by a man in a barn near the railroad who saw the negroes drag the girls around in the coal car. He cited the testimony of another witness who said he saw the negroes get out of the car with the girls at Paint Rock. By the admission of some of the defendants, he declared, all of them were guilty.

He declared that the entire bar of Scottsboro was appointed by the court to defend the negroes, and that it was his information that a member of the bar was present when the negroes were arraigned for trial. This member of the Scottsboro bar also conducted the trial with the aid of Attorney Roddy, of Chattanooga, who was sent there to investigate the case.

The character of the girls, attacked in affidavits submitted to the court, was not an issue, he said.

Regarding the change of venue motion, the Attorney General declared there was no record to show that mob spirit and hysteria dominated the trial.

"Let's treat the officers of that court fairly," he said. "Let's be fair to those 100 men who qualified as jurors. Let's apply the situation existing in this court today. I have never seen this court as crowded as it is today, and I have never witnessed such attempts to intimidate this court and its officers. I have never before received a telegram, as I did just before I entered this courtroom to do my duty as a constitutional officer, which demanded "unconditional release of the men convicted."

He held aloft a Communist newspaper, which bore a large headline "Christianity in Alabama," declaring it to be incendiary in character.

"But all of this hasn't affected us," he said. "The court will do its duty. I will do my duty."

"Then why should we assume that the gathering of a curious mob would have influenced the jurors and judge of the trial court?"

He closed by asking if a trial court should be held in error everytime a crowd gathers or everytime a sheriff deems it necessary to take precautions by asking of the militia.

George W. Chamlee, Sr., chief counsel for the eight negroes, made the rebuttal argument. He stated that a part of the new testimony uncovered was the statement of a firemen on the train, who said the negroes did not all get off the train from the same car. He said this bit of evidence he considered as of vast importance. He closed with a tribute to the South, to Alabama, her people and her courts.

COURT FRAMES NEGRO FOR AID OF SCOTTSBORO BOYS

Daily Worker
3-7-32
New York

I.L.D. Filing Appeal for New Trial for McDowell

N.Y.

CHATTANOOGA, March 3.—The boss court here yesterday carried through its frame up of Oscar McDowell, a militant Negro worker active in the mass defense of the 9 innocent Scottsboro boys. The court convicted McDowell on the framed-up charge of attempting to shoot Baugh, a backward Negro worker and a tool of the Interdenominational Ministers Association and the N. A. A. C. P. who incited him to beat up his wife because of her support of the mass defense of the Scottsboro boys.

McDowell was fined fifty dollars and costs, in addition to the conviction which carries a jail sentence of one to five years. E. M. Buchanan, attorney for Baugh, acted as prosecutor, injecting the Scottsboro issue, charging that the International Labor Defense was stirring up the Negro masses and sought the death of the Scottsboro boys.

McDowell and his mother, had taken in Baugh's wife after her terrible beating at the hands of Baugh. Baugh several times invaded the McDowell home threatening the McDowells, and tearing up copies of the Liberator, official organ of the League of Struggle for Negro Rights. When his wife pressed charges against him, the local court told Baugh to get a shot gun and shoot up the Reds. Baugh fired two shots at McDowell. He then accused McDowell of shooting at him with a pistol.

The prosecution could produce no eye witness to support Baugh's claim. Four witnesses testified for the defense that they heard only two shots, and no pistol shot. McDowell's mother and brother, and the latter's wife, testified that McDowell's pistol was in his trunk after McDowell had been taken to the hospital for shot gun wounds inflicted by Baugh.

After McDowell came out of the hospital, he was picked up on a gun-carrying charge while taking his pistol to the pawnshop to obtain money for moving expenses. This charge was also pushed against him by the bosses court in its anxiety to punish him for his support of the mass fight to free the nine innocent Scottsboro boys.

George W. Chamlee, International Labor Defense attorney, is filing a motion for a new trial on both charges.

SCOTTSBORO DECISION TO BE MADE MAY 1

Constitution
Atlanta, Ga

MONTGOMERY, Ala., March 10. (AP)—Chief Justice John C. Anderson, of the Alabama supreme court, today said decisions on the motions for new trials and reversal of death sentences in the three Scottsboro cases would be handed down before May 1.

The chief justice said the cases had been referred to individual justices and after they complete their study, the court will hold a general consultation before handing down a decision.

3-16-32

Scottsboro Youths Will Know Fate May First

Kansas City Call
Kansas City, Mo

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—(ANP) — According to an announcement made here Thursday morning by Chief Justice Anderson of the Alabama supreme court, decision on the motion for new trials and reversals of death sentences in the three Scottsboro cases will be handed down, May 1.

3-18-32

The statement revealed that the cases had been referred to individual justices and after they complete their study the court will hold a general conference before handing down a decision.

Commune Meets To Spur Fight for Scottsboro Boys

Daily Worker
3-17-32
New York, N.Y.

I.L.D. Asks Workers to Write to Them

NEW YORK, N. Y., March 17.—March 25 is the anniversary of the arrest of the nine Scottsboro boys! The working class of the world, which has already roared its protest of this outrage committed against young Negro workers, will remember them in thousands of demonstrations on March 18, anniversary of the Paris Commune.

On march 25, 1931, nine young Negroes were taken from a freight train at Paint Rock, Ala., and framed with a rape charge on two girls riding a box car in overalls. The girls were themselves victims of capitalist exploitation: mill workers who could not live on the starvation wages of the bosses and had taken to prostitution to survive.

Yet the capitalist courts took these two girls, whom they were willing to starve and ruin, and used them to stir up race prejudice against the entire Negro race. In this way, by splitting the ranks of Negro and white workers, the owners of Southern industry seek to keep the Negro—and his white fellow-worker too—in perpetual peonage.

That white workers as well as Negroes are victims of boss frame-ups is shown in the fate of Tom Mooney, now spending his sixteenth year behind the thick walls of San Quentin.

Though the whole world knows of his innocence, Governor Rolph refuses to release him. He is now counting on the militant workers to free him.

The International Labor Defense asks that workers write to the Scottsboro prisoners on March 18 to show their working-class solidarity. The boys want to hear from workers, whose power and loyalty they have already felt. Letters should be addressed to Ozie Powell, Eugene Williams, Andy Wright, Willie Robertson, Olin Montgomery, Charlie Weems, Haywood Patterson, Clarence Norris, all at Kilby Prison, Montgomery, Ala., and to Roy Wright, at the Birmingham County Jail, Birmingham, Ala.

Letters entering the death house at Kilby are rigidly censored and must be written with this in mind, the I.L.D. states, or they will never reach the boys. Also, the I.L.D. urges that stamps and stationery be sent the boys so that they can correspond with workers, as they are eager to do.

CONFERENCE MAPS OUT PLAN FOR BIG SCOTTSBORO FIGHT

Daily Worker

To Combat Terror of S. Side Police

3-7-32

CHICAGO, Ill.—Seventy organizations, representing over 5,000 workers held a conference Sunday, Feb. 28th, and worked out plans for an intensive drive for the release of the Scottsboro boys, against police terror on the south side and the ousting of Stege and Barker from that territory.

New York

This conference, following upon the heels of the most successful affair held in Chicago this season, at which a large sum was raised for the Scottsboro defense, is a good sign of the revival of the campaign here in Chicago. Over 500 attended the conference. The plans adopted by the conference were enthusiastically greeted by the masses of Negro and white workers present.

Daily Worker

The plans adopted at the conference were to initiate a Scottsboro campaign leading to a mass demonstration and parade in the near future, demanding the release of the Scottsboro boys. The conference elected a committee of 13 to develop this campaign. This committee will work jointly with the International Labor Defense and the League of Struggle for Negro Rights.

Plans for the removal of Stege and Barker were also worked out by the conference which the committee will be in power to carry out. This including the carying on of a petition drive in Stege and Barker territory for their removal, for the sending of delegates representing many organizations to Mayor Cermak, to the City Council of Chicago, and also to Alderman Anderson. These delegates will demand from him that he introduce resolutions in the City Council, urging the council to take a stand on the Scottsboro issue and removing Stege and Barker from the south side.

Birmingham, Ala. News
Friday, March 25, 1932

The Affirmation Of The Scottsboro Cases

Public opinion in Alabama, and outside of the state as well, will doubtless be divided on the decision of the Alabama Supreme Court in the Scottsboro cases, just as the justices of the court themselves are divided in their opinions.

On the one hand we have the majority opinion, concurred in by six justices, by which the court affirms the death sentences passed on seven of the eight Negro youths convicted at Scottsboro of criminally assaulting two young white women, the case of the eighth being reversed and remanded for trial on the ground that he was a juvenile.

On the other hand, we have the dissenting opinion of Chief Justice John C. Anderson, who holds that the trial court erred in refusing to grant a new trial in each of the cases.

In view of this difference of opinion among learned judges of the state's highest tribunal, after reviewing all the records in the cases, acquainting themselves with all the facts and circumstances surrounding them, and hearing the arguments on both sides, it should be small wonder if the public finds itself divided.

Obviously, there is ground for divergence of opinions concerning these cases. The matter is something about which many persons have felt and will continue to feel doubtful, and about which no one, perhaps, should venture to feel absolutely certain. This is true not only because of the nature of the affair itself, about which there are a number of circumstances which give rise to doubt, but also because of certain intangible considerations which make for other doubts.

For its part, at least, The News does not feel warranted in being absolute concerning the rightness of either the court's decision or the dissenting opinion. It does think, however, that the very fact that there was a dissenting opinion is significant.

The justices of the Supreme Court, of course, were bound to the records of the trials. Their field of action was limited. As Chief Justice Anderson said at the time the cases came up before that tribunal, in denouncing the attempts at intimidation made by irresponsible persons, the Supreme Court is not a court of original jurisdiction, but an appellate court. It could not try the cases. It could only pass judgment as to whether or not there was a reversible error in the original trials.

Boiled down, the question before the Supreme Court was whether or not the trial judge erred presence of national guardsmen tended to influence the jury, and whether or not the speed of the trials prevented the defendants from presenting a proper defense.

The six justices whose opinion represents the court's decision hold that the trial judge did not err in denying a change of venue, on the ground that the evidence offered did not support the contention that the public mind was inflamed to such an extent that the defendants could not be given a fair trial; that it was not necessary to assemble the National Guard to protect the prisoners and that their presence did not tend to influence the jury, and that the speed of the trials did not prevent them from presenting a proper defense.

There is a fine paragraph in the majority opinion, written by Justice Knight, regarding the speed of the trials: "If there were more speed, and less delay in the administration of the criminal laws of the land, life and property would be infinitely safer, and greater respect would the criminally inclined have for the law."

On the same point, there is a striking paragraph in Chief Justice Anderson's dissenting opinion. He says: "While the constitution guarantees to the accused a speedy trial, it is of greater importance that it should be by a fair and impartial jury ex vu termini, a jury free from bias or prejudice, and above all, free from coercion and intimidation." The chief justice holds that the trial judge should have granted new trials because of the presence of the national guardsmen and the demonstration in the courtroom that greeted the first verdict.

Thus the whole question, so far as the Supreme Court was concerned, was simply whether or not the defendants should have been granted new trials. On this point there will doubtless remain in the public mind the same difference of opinion that is found among the justices of the Supreme Court. If the opinion of part of the public coincides with the court's decision, it is probably true also that many persons would have felt better about the disposition of these cases if they had been retried. Possibly the same persons could be helped to a better feeling about it if the governor should grant a commutation of the death sentences to life imprisonment.

This affair has been a most unfortunate one for the people of Alabama, and particularly for the people of Jackson County, where the trials were held. It has been so largely because of the icious agitation of the cases, mostly by Communist organizations and Communist sympa- hizers, apparently, and because of the vast mount of outside interference. Such persons nd organizations used the cases for propaganda urposes, without, it is reasonable to believe from their activities, caring greatly about the fate of the Negroes involved. Certainly, at any rate, their activities have not done any good.

As for the people of Jackson County, they have been grievously maligned. It has been evident throughout the proceedings that they desired to see the law take its course in the matter. They were most commendably temperate in the manifestation of their feelings. Yet they have been accused of being inflamed and riotous, and even of worse things. This is an injustice to them that deserves the severest sort of denunciation.

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4 COLLEGE GIRLS PLEAD FOR LIVES OF DOOMED NEGROES

Constitution

WASHINGTON, April 1.—(AP)—Four young women from Vassar and Wellesley Colleges visited the capitol today in an effort to rouse sentiment in congress against the execution of seven young negroes of Scottsboro, Ala., under sentence to die May 13 for assaults upon two white girls.

The students were Riva Stocker, Evelyn Rosenthal and Dorothy Lippincott, of Vassar, and Florence Smith, of Wellesley.

4-2-32

When they called upon Senator Black, democrat, Alabama, he suggested that there is sufficient crime in New York, Chicago and other nothern cities to make it unnecessary for them to interest themselves in crime in Alabama.

Atlanta, Ga.

He told newspapermen that when he asked his callers whether they had read the evidence in the trial of the negroes they responded in the negative and said the information they had was obtained from newspapers. The senator said he informed them he would be pleased to hear any comment from them after they had read the evidence.

The group then visited Senator Copeland, democrat, New York, and asked him to make a senate speech on the case. He told them he regarded this as a state matter to be settled by Alabama without federal interference but agreed to read the record of the case when his visitors offered to provide him with it.

STUDENT GROUP SEEKS SCOTTSBORO CLEMENCY

NEW YORK, March 30.—(AP)—Three Vassar College students, Riva Stocker, a senior; Evelyn Rosenthal, a junior, and Dorothy Lippincott, a sophomore, left today for Washington to plead with members of the senate to intervene in the case of seven negroes sentenced to death at Scottsboro, Ala.

3-31-32

They will be joined in Washington by Julis Heiman, of Smith College; Florence Smith, of Wellesley, and Vera Joseph, of Barnard, and other representatives of Goucher, University of North Carolina and Swarthmore.

They will return Saturday.

The negroes were sentenced to die after their conviction on a charge of attacking two white girls on a freight train last March.

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Alabama

3740

U. S. Supreme Court To Determine Fate Of Scottsboro Boys

Defender 4-2-32 Houston, Texas

NEW YORK CITY.—(CNA)—"We will carry the case of the Scottsboro boys to the United States Supreme Court," said officials at the national headquarters of the International Labor Defense here upon hearing of the decision of the Alabama Supreme Court upholding the death verdicts in the case of seven of the Scottsboro defendants. "The decision granting a new trial for 13-year-old Eugene Williams, is merely a means by which the Alabama court hopes to temper the wrath of the masses, in order the more easily to put through the callous murder of seven other boys, all of whom are equally innocent with Williams and all of whom are nearly as young as he is."

Word received here from Chattanooga, Tenn., by the International Labor Defense headquarters states that George W. Chamblee, one of the attorneys hired by the I. L. D. to defend the Scottsboro boys, has filed notice of an appeal to the United States Supreme Court. A change of venue to Birmingham will be demanded for Williams when he is again tried.

May 13th was set as the death day for the boys by the Alabama Supreme Court in its decision handed down on Thursday. The appeal to the Supreme Court, however, automatically stays the execution pending review of the case in Washington.

A telegram was dispatched by the national headquarters of the International Labor Defense to the justices of the Alabama Supreme Court, which protests against the decision upholding the lynch sentences and declaring for a continued struggle against the verdicts. The telegram reads as follows:

"Your confirmation of the death verdicts against the innocent Scottsboro boys is a blow against the working class, especially the poor Negroes in the South. The workers throughout the world protest this upholding of legal lynching and obvious frame-ups as a weapon to 'keep the Negro in his place,' meaning ruthless exploitation of Negro and white workers by factory and landowners. By all our resources of mass organization and appeal to public protest, we pledge to fight this terror, which your decision will aid."

A joint statement issued by two organizations that have since the beginning been in the forefront of the struggle to save the Scottsboro boys, the International Labor Defense and the League of Struggle for Negro Rights, reads in part:

"This decision by the Alabama Supreme Court, in spite of conclusive evidence of innocence, proves that only the mass protest of millions of workers, striking fear into the minds of these upholders of the lynch system, can swing open the doors of the prison and free these boys. The decision of the Alabama Supreme Court upholding this crude and vicious frame-up against seven innocent Negro boys will go down in history alongside the Dred Scott decision of the U. S. Supreme Court in 1856, declaring that a Negro cannot be looked upon as a human being, but is only a chattel, no different from a piece of furniture. Although we are appealing to the United States Supreme Court, we know that this court is only part and parcel of the white bosses lynch law system, and that only mass action and mass protest can compel the boys' release."

Postal Accepts Knight Warning

Advertiser

4-6-32

Telegraph Firm To Deliver No Illegal Messages To State's Supreme Court

Montgomery

"The Postal Telegraph Company will deliver no illegal telegrams to the Supreme Court of Alabama," Thomas E. Martin, Montgomery counsel for the company, said last night when asked what the Postal's attitude is toward the letter of warning from Atty. Gen. Knight, forwarded to the local managers of that Company and of the Western Union Telegraph Company, against delivery to the Supreme Court of any more telegrams "sent by persons who are apparently dissatisfied with certain decisions of the Supreme Court in certain cases on appeal before that body."

Though the letter does not state specifically the "certain cases" referred to, they are, quite obviously, the cases of the negroes convicted at Scottsboro, Ala., in March a year ago, of criminally assaulting two young white women, and sentenced to death. There are eight of these cases. All but one have been affirmed by the Supreme Court of the State. The one exception was reversed and remanded on assertion this defendant is 16 years of age. In all cases but this one, applications for rehearing are now pending.

H. F. Crenshaw, Sr., local counsel for the Western Union Telegraph Company, stated when asked about the position of the Western Union concerning the Atty. General's warning, that he could make no statement until he hears from general counsel for the Company, in New York, to whom the matter has been referred. It is presumed, however, that the position of the Western Union will be the same as that of the Postal Company.

In his letter to the managers here of both telegraph companies, Atty. Gen. Knight said it had come to his attention that numerous telegrams have been directed to the Supreme Court of Alabama, and have been delivered to the Court by the Montgomery offices of the respective companies. He added that "practically all of these telegrams contain illegal, libelous, scandalous and I might say under the peculiar circumstances, obscene matter." It was then, he stated, the telegrams have been sent by persons who are apparently dissatisfied "with certain decisions of the Supreme Court in certain cases on appeal before that body." He took the position that the delivery of such messages to any court "constitutes a contempt of the highest character."

Stating he recognizes in no one the right to suggest or to demand any decision in any case pending before a court of the State of Alabama, the letter declares: "These messages were sent for the purpose of obstructing the due administration of justice," and that he does not think they should be delivered by any telegraph company. The letter was to advise those to whom it was addressed, that if any other such telegrams are delivered to the Supreme Court, the Attorney General will feel it his duty to file an information to cite them as manager of the delivering company, for contempt of court.

A WOMAN'S REBUKE TO THE GOLLEGE GIRLS

Advertiser

Editor The Advertiser:

The world seems indeed to be going with a whirl upon its axis with our dailies bringing before us such startling facts as college girls becoming intercessors for those who have been proven beyond all doubt guilty of a crime so revolting in its bestiality as to bring a shudder of horror to one—most especially to womankind of whom were their victims. There is no room for "sickly sentimentality" in such a case or for pity in the breast of any woman of the Caucasian race. They deserve nothing but full justice meted out by the law and that they have had—and should abide by the penalty that the law provides.

Montgomery, Ala

It is gratifying to note that only one Southern college is represented in the delegation of girls who have been so misguided as to champion such an unworthy cause.

It is greatly to the discredit of the colleges represented in the party of ambassadors in such a cause—the highest "temples of learning" in the land—that their training has had such a result.

4-3-32

It seems that it would be better for them (the girls) to forego the cultural training they seek when those who should be their protectors betray their trust.

It would seem that it is time that parents and guardians should become awakened to the danger that so many of our "temples of knowledge" hold for them.

The insidious influence of infidelity is felt to an alarming extent in many. In some, it runs rampant and surely no good can come from such an atmosphere which can but breed innumerable evils.

No longer does the standard of honor and integrity hold first place in our educational institutions. The slogan seems to be to win out in material things at whatever cost to the higher and better things of the spirit.

We should endeavor, at least, to give our youth such training as to prevent the painful spectacle of young girls, standing at the portals of womanhood, committing the shocking mistake of defending those upon whom they should look with horror—as a menace to society that should meet with Justice swift and sure.

In the case before us it most certainly has not been swift having been interfered with by those whose views were inimical to the welfare of the people among whom the crime was committed and to whom should be left the rightful privilege of dealing with it.

Many were actuated by a spirit of greed—many alien attorneys fattening on espousing such a cause—but when it comes to our own girls—those who should seek every means of protection from that ever-present menace to their safety—stepping out in behalf of those upon whom the law laid its hand for their protection—it is time that we should look up the source from which such ideas come. Teachers have come to hold lightly their responsibility regarding their vocation—regarding it often as only a means of material gain, with the exception of the "faithful few," while they have in their hands the shaping of the destiny of the nation.

For the welfare of our country in both a material and spiritual way we trust that our youth will receive the guidance that will mean safety and happiness to them individually and to the society to which they must contribute.

MRS. W. G. EUBANK.

Pine Level, Ala., April 1, 1932.

Girl Students Seek To Aid Assaulters

Advertiser

3-30-32

Montgomery

NEW YORK, March 29.—(AP)—Young women from four leading Eastern colleges will go to Washington tomorrow to ask individual congressmen to intercede for seven negro youths under death sentence in Alabama for assault on two white girls at Scottsboro.

The students are from Vassar, Smith, Wellesley and Barnard Colleges, and expect to be joined at the capital by representatives of Goucher College, in Baltimore; Swarthmore College, Penn., and the University of North Carolina.

Lynchings-1932

Alabama

3741

Legal Punishment for Rape

SEEK FREEDOM FOR DOOMED SCOTTSBORO BOYS

Indianapolis Recorder 4-9-32

Indianapolis Ind.

White college girls who visited congress seeking aid in their fight to free the seven condemned boys in the famous Scottsboro case. Reading left to right: Evelyn Rossenthal of Vassar college; Riva Stocker of Vassar; Senator Copeland (Dem.) of New York; Florence Smith of Wellesley college and Dorothy Lippincott of Vassar. (Photo courtesy Capital News Service).

APPEAL FOR NEGROES MAY GO TO HIGH COURT

Constitution 4-12-32 Atlanta Ga

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., April 11. (AP)—George W. Chamlee, chief counsel in the Scottsboro case, expects to take the cases of the seven condemned negroes to the United States supreme court on writs of certiorari. Plans have not yet been completed for carrying the cases before the supreme court for review but Chamlee states definitely that the cases will be appealed.

Scottsboro Case To Be Taken To High Tribunal

4-12-32

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., April 11.—(AP)—George W. Chamlee, chief counsel in the Scottsboro case, expects to take the cases of the seven condemned negroes to the U. S. Supreme Court on writs of certiorari.

Plans have not yet been completed for carrying the cases before the Supreme Court for review but Chamlee states definitely that the cases will be appealed.

Mother of Scottsboro Boy To Tour European Cities

Everett

NEW YORK.—An invitation to tour Germany and Europe has been extended to the mother of one of the seven Scottsboro Negro boys whose death setence on charges of assault has just been affirmed by the Alabama supreme court, in a cablegram just received from the German Red Aid by the International Labor Defense in New York, it was announced Thursday.

4-4-32

The tour will be linked with the international protest against the verdict which has stirred European intellectual and liberal circles, resulting in a cablegram of protest from 290 European artists, writers and scientists, headed by Albert Einstein and Thomas Mann, to the supreme court justices and the governor of Alabama.

Kansas City

The International Labor Defense announced that arrangements would be made for the immediate departure of the mother of one of the boys

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Telegraph Company Bars Telegram Protesting the Scottsboro Lynch Verdicts

Daily Worker 4-8-32 New York

Cites Alabama Attorney General Ruling That Delivery of Protests Is "Contempt" of Lynchers' Court

NEW YORK.—A telegram from the Trade Union Unity League Council protesting against the recent decision of the Alabama Supreme Court upholding the Scottsboro lynch verdicts, was rejected yesterday by the Western Union Telegraph Company. The telegram was addressed to the Supreme Court of Alabama.

In refusing to accept the telegram for delivery, the Western Union cited the recent ruling of Attorney General Knight of Alabama that delivery of Scottsboro protest telegrams would constitute "contempt of court." Knight threatened the telegram companies with prosecution. He lyingly claimed that the Scottsboro protests were "obscene" and "threatening." The telegram rejected by the Western Union is typical of the protests that have poured in on the governor of Alabama and the Alabama lynch courts since the beginning of the Scottsboro case. The Daily Worker herewith prints a copy of this telegram

"In the name of twenty thousand organized workers, we protest against the outrageous show of race hatred displayed against the Scottsboro boys. We pledge our support with the International Labor Defense in fighting this verdict.

"(Signed) Trade Union Unity Council of Greater New York."

The action of the Alabama Attorney General and the refusal of the Western Union to transmit the telegram will not stop the tremendous mass fight to free the Scottsboro boys. This fight is spreading all over the world, with new hundreds of thousands of workers being drawn into the struggle against the Scottsboro lynch verdicts, against the frightful national oppression of the Negro nationality. The fight will go on, and will continue to grow, until the lynch bosses are forced to free these innocent Negro boys.

Daily Worker

Mrs. Janie Patterson of Chattanooga, whose 17-year-old son, Haywood, is one of the [illegible] Scottsboro boys whose appeal for a new trial the Alabama Supreme Court turned down last week. Mrs. Patterson has toured the country urging Negro and white workers to smash this ghastly frame-up.

New York

CONDEMNED NEGROES ASK APPEAL REHEARING

N.Y. Times

Counsel Applies to Alabama Supreme Court—Will Carry Case to Highest Bench.

3-26-32

MONTGOMERY, Ala., March 25 (AP).—Applications for a rehearing of appeals to the Alabama Supreme Court were filed today in behalf of seven Negroes sentenced to death at

Scottsboro a year ago for attacks on two white girls.

The applications were made by George W. Chamlee of Chattanooga, chief counsel for the Negroes. He asked the court to set aside its judgment rendered yesterday whereby the sentences were affirmed for seven of eight Negroes convicted and May 13 was designated as the date for their execution.

The eighth Negro obtained a new trial, as he was only 15 years old and the trial court lacked jurisdiction in his case.

"If the court denies us the rehearing," Mr. Chamlee said, "we will immediately take steps to carry the case before the United States Supreme Court."

Attorney General Thomas E. Knight announced that he would oppose any delay in executing the Negroes.

A basis for an appeal to the United States Supreme Court in behalf of the seven Negro youths was suggested yesterday by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue. The association announced its readiness to prosecute the appeal if the convicted Negroes would permit it to act.

The basis for the proposed appeal is a case in Arkansas won by the association before the Supreme Court in 1923 in which it was ruled that a mob-dominated trial was not "due process of law."

Officials of the association said they believed it "not impossible" that a similar result might be attained in the Alabama case.

Famous New York Lawyer To Aid Scottsboro Boys

Independent
Atlanta, Ga
4-8-32

New York City.—Walter Pollack, well-known New York Lawyer, has been retained by the International Labor Defense as chief counsol for the Scottsboro boys, the national office of the I. L. D. announced last week. He will argue before the Supreme Court of the United States, the cases of the seven boys whose death sentences have been upheld by the decision of the Alabama Supreme Court.

An associate of Justice Benjamin N. Cardozo of the U. S. Supreme Court, Pollack has had considerable experience in arguing cases before the highest bench. He was counsel for the defense in the case of Anita Whitney, charged in California with criminal syndicalism, and he was retained as special U. S. prosecuting attorney in the case of Nicky Arnstein. Pollack was in charge of the Wickersham Commission, which recently conducted an investigation into police methods.

Other legal steps now being taken by the Labor Defense in this case are the efforts to secure the freedom on bail of Roy Wright, whose case in Scottsboro resulted in a mistrial, and of Eugene Williams, whose death sentence was reversed by the Alabama Supreme Court.

A cablegram received by the national headquarters of the I. L. D from the German Red Aid—the labor defense organization of Germany—issues an invitation to the organization here to send one of the mothers of the Scottsboro boys to Europe for a speaking tour. One of the mothers will no doubt accept the invitation and will sail shortly, the national office announced.

"We will back up the legal steps in the fight for the freedom of the Scottsboro boys with an intensified campaign of mass protest," said a statement issued from the I. L. D. headquarters here last week. "Every resource at our disposal will be utilised to free these boys, and we will leave no stone unturned until they are saved."

Already telegrams of protest from hundreds of workers and working-class organizations in every part of the world are pouring into the office of Governor B. M. Miller of Alabama. Over 600 were received during the week the announcement of the Supreme Court decision.

SCOTTSBORO AGAIN

Reporter

(From The Birmingham Age-Herald

Many Alabamians will regret the fact that a majority of the Supreme Court did not follow Chief Justice Anderson in the Scottsboro cases. He stood out alone as maintaining that new trials should be allowed because the constant presence of the military together with demonstrations in the courtroom, warranted such a course. Many students of this unfortunate affair will be disposed to think that Judge Anderson did not exaggerate the importance of these disturbing factors. When soldiers and crowd psychology have their place in the picture, the question arises whether justice is being dispensed under de-

sirable conditions. 4-9-32

But this was not the conclusion of the six justices whose word under the circumstances controls. They have therefore ruled that no reversible error appears in the record of the lower court trials. This means that the penalty of death is affirmed. The defendants have the right to ask for a rehearing from the Alabama Supreme Court, and in the event of a denial there, it is announced, the United States Supreme Court will be petitioned as a final resort.

Birmingham
Ala.

This is one of those complicated affairs about which it is difficult to be absolute. So maney elements are woven into the pattern that it is no easy matter to choose the strands of vital significance. The Supreme Court majority believes that the technical rights of these Negroes have been protected. That is one way out of a tangle in which the appearance of things is in collision with the realities. Granted that a change of venue was not necessary, or that the swiftness of the procedure was not incompatible with a fair trial, the fact remains that there was an element of mob feeling in the air and that a well-planned defense was not offered.

As though other considerations were not harassing enough, the Communists made haste to exploit this opportunity to give trouble. The consequence was that threats were hurled at Gov. Miller and Judge Anderson and that in the country at large a viciously biased impression of what had happened at Scottsboro was circulated until intelligent people joined professional cranks and deriders of the South in a campaign for which there was no justification. Public opinion in Alabama could not help being unfavorably affected by this attempt to pillory the civilization of the state.

The upshot, then, is that these seven Negroes will be executed on the date set, unless there be a legal stay or unless the governor steps in with his authority to commute the sentences. Either development will be welcomed, we are sure, by many thoughtful Alabamians, who, in view of all that has come to their knowledge since the Scottsboro hearings, were hopeful that some method might be devised for giving these offenders new trials, and who are probably disappointed by the most recent turn of events. Judge Anderson's opinion merely strengthens them in the conviction that a fresh inquiry would have done no harm but would have relieved our courts of criticism, which is no less painful because it is undeserved.

Much as one may wish that things had taken a different course, one must nevertheless sympathize with the people of Jackson County, who have had to bear the brunt of this ugly experience. They not only had to deal with the shocking affair originally, but they have been subjected to indefensible villification from ignorant or malicious critics. It was a serious misfortune to have this test imposed upon a community. It was an intolerable wrong to be held up to the ridicule and contempt of the world. For a folk so unfairly condemned, fellow Alabamians have only the tenderest understanding.

It is to be expected that unless this cause celebre takes a happy direction, clamor from the outside will be redoubled. Our state should be prepared for the storm and should face it not with bitterness but with a sense of having sought to do the right thing under the most trying pressure. That is true whether the judgment of our Supreme Court stands, or whether it is modified. Yet it would be uncandid if this paper failed to close its comment on the issue without expressing the hope that the interest of legal justice may come to be the interest of a large and fruitful social statesmanship.

JUDICIAL LYNCHINGS

Chicago
Defender
4/2/32

The Alabama supreme court has rendered its decision in the celebrated Scottsboro case which affirmed the decision of the lower court in sentencing nine black boys to the electric chair.

This case has attracted the attention of the entire civilized world because of the manner in which the evidence was secured against these boys and the case conducted. To the American black man who knows the infamy of southern justice no other decision was expected.

We have learned to realize that southern justice is made to fit the occasion and the race to which it is to be applied, hence the decision of the Alabama supreme court is only indicative of another step backward with added evidence of the fact that in so far as the South goes the law is the twin brother of race hatred and corruption.

This is verified by the fact that no conclusive proof of the guilt of these boys was sustained by competent evidence; that the obviously hand-picked jury from which black men are arbitrarily and illegally excluded bowed to the wishes of the howling mob within the courtroom; that the principal witnesses in the lower court were two known prostitutes who were trapped in lies. All of this and more, yet the Alabama supreme court seemingly ignored these important points and rendered its decision on color alone.

It is presumed that the spirit of the late Chief Justice Roger B. Taney, author of the infamous Dred Scott decision, serves as a guide to the Alabama supreme court in passing on this case. The outcome of this case is proof positive that the black man cannot hope to obtain justice in southern courts.

By all means the Scottsboro case should be taken to the United States supreme court. We might as well know now as later whether the nation's highest tribunal will sanction judicial lynchings.

GERMANS PLEAD TO HOOVER FOR SCOTTSB'RO BOYS

4-2-32
Chicago, Ill.

BERLIN, March 30.—A German committee, headed by Prof. Einstein and Thomas Mann designed "for saving the Scottsboro victims sent a cable to President Hoover and also one to the governor of Alabama asking them "in the name of justice and humanity" to pardon eight colored boys, seven of whom are to die April 13 for the alleged assault of two white prostitutes.

Boston Meeting Held For Scottsboro Negroes

Advertiser
4-11-32
Montgomery
Ala

BOSTON, April 10.—(AP)—James P. Reid, president of the National Textile Workers Union, called on 500 persons who attended a mass meeting on Boston Commons today to take part in a demonstration at the United States Court Tuesday to demand the release of Edith Berkman, Communist organizer.

Miss Berkman's appeal against deportation was set for action at the morning session of the court.

The meeting, held under the auspices of the International Labor Defense, was called in behalf of Miss Berkman, and also in behalf of seven negro youths now under sentence of death from Scottsboro. Ala.

Lynchings-1932
& Legal Punishment for Rape.

Alabama.

3742

3742

Lynch Verdicts Stayed Again by Mass Fight

Daily Worker 11-8-32 New York, N.Y.

The Nine Scottsboro boys in whose defense millions of workers, peasants and intellectuals throughout the world have held numerous protest demonstrations. Reading left to right, they are: Andy Wright, 17 years old; his brother Roy, 14; Haywood Patterson, 17; Eugene Williams, 14; Willie Robertson, 17; Olen Montgomery, 17; Clarence Norris, 19; Charlie Weems, 20, and Ozie Powell, 14.

Scottsboro Lads Victims of Hideous Class Frame-Up

They Were Railroaded to Death Sentences On Trumped-Up "Rape" Charge

Reformists Aided Lynch Bosses While Communists Lead Fight for Their Freedom

The nine Scottsboro boys were arrested at Paint Rock, Alabama, on March 25, 1931, while riding a freight from Chattanooga, Tenn., in a vain hunt for work.

They were at first arrested in connection with a fight which took place on the freight between a group of Negro boys and seven white boys. This charge was later changed to "rape" when the sheriff discovered two white girls riding the freight in overalls. The two girls at first denied they had even seen the Negro boys on the freight. The two girls were mill workers forced into prostitution by low wages and unemployment. The state used this fact to coerce them into lying away the lives of the boys.

Misleaders In Case.

The boys—all minors—were denied any opportunity to communicate with their parents or to arrange a defense. The "defense" attorneys appointed by the court helped in railroading the boys toward the electric chair. One of these attorneys, Stephen Roddy, was later endorsed and sponsored by the misleaders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. These misleaders and other Negro and white reformists, have consistently played the role of assistant hangmen to the imperialists throughout the long history of the case.

Trial on "Horse-Swapping Day.

They were rushed to trial on April 6, 1931, "horse-swapping day" in Scottsboro, Alabama. The normal population of the town is 2,000, but on April 6, a mob of 10,000, many of them armed, surged through the streets of the town demanding the lives of the boys. During the "trials", this mob, mobilized by the boss press, and entertained with booze and a jazz band furnished by local mill bosses, surrounded the court, cheering the lynch verdicts as they were brought in by juries from which Negroes were deliberately excluded.

Within a few hours, death verdicts were returned against Charley Weems and Clarence Norris. In quick succession, Haywood Patterson and then five more in a group, quickly followed by the last little boy, Roy Wright, were put on "trial". All but Roy were swiftly sentenced to burn in the electric chair. A small minority of the jurors held out for life imprisonment for Roy. This caused a mistrial in his case.

Mass Move Starts.

July 10 was set for the carrying out of the hideous lynch verdicts against eight of the boys. But now a furious storm of protest broke over the heads of the astonished boss lynchers. The Communist Party and its press had exposed the lynch frame-up. The International Labor Defense had taken up the defense of the lads. The League of Struggle for Negro Rights, the International Labor Defense and the Communist Party, roused the masses, black and white, to angry protests. The International Red Aid, of which the I. L. D. is the American section, and the Communist parties of the whole world, took up the challenge flung down by the brutal lynch bosses. A furious thunder of protest rose from workers and intellectuals throughout Europe, China, South Africa, etc., while in the Soviet Union millions of workers and peasants thundered their protests against the lynch verdicts and their solidarity with the oppressed Negro masses.

The Scottsboro court was forced to grant a new trial and a stay of execution. The new trials were held on June 5, in Scottsboro, with the judge who had handed down the original lynch verdicts and who now denied a change of venue to a point outside of Scottsboro, presiding. Judge Hawkins upheld his own lynch verdicts. He set a new date for the legal murders.

Case Appealed.

The I. L. D. attorneys appealed the case to the Alabama Supreme Court, while the mass fight of white and Negro workers went forward in giant strides throughout the world. The Alabama Supreme Court upheld the lynch verdicts against seven of the boys and set a new date for the executions. In the case of 14-year old Eugene Williams, the court reversed the verdict and ordered a trial in the juvenile court. Chief Justice Anderson, in an opinion dissenting from the majority opinion upholding the lynch verdicts against seven, was forced to admit that none of the boys had had a fair trial.

The I. L. D., supported by increasing numbers of white and colored workers, demanded a review of the lynch verdicts by the U. S. Supreme Court. Oral argument was heard on October 10 by that court. Its decision was postponed until yesterday when it was given as a last minute election move in an attempt to corral Negro voters for support of the slave-driver and jim-crow president Herbert Hoover and his lily-white Republican Party.

NEW YORK TIMES

NOV 8 1932

DEFERS NEW ACTION IN SCOTTSBORO CASE

Alabama Prosecutor Awaits Reading of Decision—Judge Predicts Venue Change Plea.

KLAN ROUTS NEGRO REDS

Birmingham Crowd, Planning March on City Hall, Is Dispersed by Notes of Warning.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Nov. 7.—Attorney General Thomas E. Knight, who defended the death sentences imposed on seven young Negroes in the Scottsboro cases, said tonight he would not discuss the State's procedure until he had read the decision of the United States Supreme Court reversing the sentences. He said he would read the decision as quickly as possible, after which he probably would make a statement.

Judge A. E. Hawkins, who burst into tears on April 9, 1931, when he passed sentence on eight of the Negroes and set the wholesale execution for July 10, said today the cases probably would again come up for trial at the regular term of Circuit Court in Jackson County, of which Scottsboro is the seat, next March.

He predicted that the first defense move would be for a change of venue to some other county.

It was eighteen months ago that nine Negroes, from 14 to 21 years old, were taken off a freight train at Paint Rock, Ala., near Scottsboro, and were charged with attacking Ruby Bates and Victoria Price, white girls, who were en route from Chattanooga to their homes in Huntsville, Ala.

Their subsequent trials and convictions have drawn protests from radicals and others throughout the world.

The Negroes were arrested on March 25, 1931, and were indicted six days later. A special session of Circuit Court was ordered to speed the trials.

State Troops Guarded Court.

Feeling against the Negroes was high and Alabama National Guardsmen were called out the first day of the trial. They placed machine guns at strategic points about the Jackson County Court House and guarded the doors and windows of the court room with fixed bayonets.

While the trial was under way the International Labor Defense wired Judge Hawkins and Governor B. M. Miller at Montgomery urging an immediate change of venue be taken to prevent "this legal lynching."

The trial proceeded, however. Eight of the Negroes were sentenced to death, while the ninth, Roy Wright a juvenile, deadlocked the jury and a mistrial was ordered.

Those sentenced to death were Charlie Weems, 21, of Atlanta; Clarence Norris, 19; Eugene Williams 15; Andy Wright, 17, and Heywood Patterson, 17, all of Chattanooga; Olen Montgomery, 17, of Monroe, Ga.; Ozie Powell, 16, of Atlanta, and Willie Roberson, 17, of Columbus, Ga.

Following conviction of the Negroes and after a new trial had been denied the cases were appealed to the Alabama Supreme Court.

It was while this hearing was pending that Governor Miller and members of the court revealed that thousands of telegrams and letters, many of them bearing threats against the Governor and the jurists, had been and were being received.

Einstein Signed Protest.

Some of these messages were fanatical, while others were from recognized international agencies and organizations, and many were from clubs organized throughout the world for the sole purpose of protesting the Scottsboro decisions.

Among important individuals to protest were Albert Einstein, Theodore Dreiser, Thomas Mann, the German writer, and others.

Chief Justice John C. Anderson announced from the bench that the court had been threatened.

"This court will not be intimidated," he added.

On March 24, 1932, a year after the alleged crimes were committed, the Alabama Supreme Court in a six-to-one decision, affirmed the decisions of the lower court in all instances except against Eugene Williams whom the court held to be a juvenile.

Attorneys employed by the International Labor Defense, in appealing to the State Supreme Court, maintained that the presence of the military, speed of the trials without proper defense, court-room comment and newspaper stories combined to make the trials unfair. These grounds were the basis of the appeal before the United States Supreme Court.

Darrow Withdrew From Case.

Clarence Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hays, noted criminal lawyers, were brought into the defense by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, but withdrew when the International Labor defense issued a statement saying "we feel that it is impossible for us or for the defendants to permit the entrance of any attorney representing that organization [the National Society for the Advancement of Colored People]."

Ada Wright, mother of Andy and Roy Wright, has toured Europe, speaking in behalf of her sons and their companions, and several times spoke in New York at sessions called as a "protest" against the sentences.

NEW YORK TIMES

NOV 9 1932

SCOTTSBORO CASE CALLED 'LANDMARK'

Decision Ordering New Trials Is Viewed as Vindication of Labor Defense Policy.

HARD LEGAL FIGHT CITED

Elliot E. Cohen Praises World Group That Acted on Behalf of Condemned Negroes.

The decision of the United States Supreme Court ordering new trials for seven Negroes condemned to death at Scottsboro, Ala., on charges of attacking two white girls, was hailed yesterday by the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners as a vindication of the defense policy of the International Labor Defense.

Elliot E. Cohen, secretary of the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners, the membership of which includes writers, artists and educators, wrote William L. Patterson, national secretary of the International Labor Defense, that the organization deserved "all possible credit for coming to the aid of these boys when all recognized official and unofficial organizations and institutions hung back in the face of so difficult and desperate a case, and for having waged the long battle inside and outside the courts undauntedly, uncompromisingly and effectively."

The letter said hat the case has "thrown an intense spotlight on the ghastly situation of the Negroes in the South" and that the Scottsboro case "bids fair, we believe, to become a great historic landmark in the political education and advancement of men and women, both Negro and white, in the United States." The letter continued:

"The International Labor Defense, as the organization with the wisdom to see this case in this broad aspect, and the fortitude to undertake to fight it not as an isolated, accidental 'miscarriage of justice,' but as a typical example of the whole process of law and civilization of the South, deserves the highest praise. We shall, on our part, not relax our campaign to enlist the hugest possible number of intellectuals * * * to rescue these innocent boys."

LEGAL RIGHTS WERE DENIED, COURT HOLDS

Telegraph
11-8-32
Macon, Ga.

Supreme Court Decision in Case of Seven Negroes Signed by Nine Justices

WOULD-BE PICKETERS HELD

Attempt of Communists to Stage Demonstration Provokes Clash With Police

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7 (AP).—New trials for the seven Negroes under sentence of death at Scottsboro, Ala., for criminal assault upon two white girls were ordered Monday by the supreme court, seven of whose nine members held the defendants were denied the right of counsel.

The decision was announced shortly after police night sticks, vigorously wielded, had repulsed a crowd of 100 radical sympathizers who were attempting to picket the court chamber in behalf of the Negroes.

Capitol police halted the demonstrators near the capitol, informed them they were violating the law and ordered them to disperse. A lively scuffle followed in which injuries were inflicted upon both police and demonstrators. Sixteen, including four women, were arrested.

Under the decision, the men will be retried in Alabama. At Fort Payne, in that state, Judge A. F. Hawkins, who presided at the original trial, said the case would be brought up again at the March term of the Jackson county circuit court. He predicted a change of venue would be sought.

Sutherland Gives Decision

Justice Sutherland handed down the decision. It was based on a construction of the "due process of law" clause of the 14th amendment. The majority of the court held that the Negroes had in substance been denied counsel, and that this constituted an invasion of their constitutional rights.

The minority consisting of Justices Butler and McReynolds, took a contrary view, basing their position on the decision of the Alabama supreme court, and declaring that the cases clearly demonstrated all the constitutional rights of the defendants had been protected.

While a number of grounds had been advanced in the appeals for urging a reversal, Justice Sutherland said it was necessary to consider only one, because the court had reached [illegible] that new trials must be ordered on the ground that the accused had been denied the right of counsel.

Telegraph

Circumstances Reviewed

11-8-32

Emphasizing the youth and illiteracy of the men, their lack of friends and the excitement of the community, Justice Sutherland said it was highly essential that the accused, who were to be considered innocent until convicted should have the benefit of competent counsel from the time of their arrest and arraignment, through their trials.

It was the duty of the trial court to see that these rights were protected, he said. The trial judge had assigned the whole bar to defend the men, he added, and no lawyer was definitely assigned to represent them until the morning of the trial. This did not permit, he said, proper preparation of the defense.

Justice Butler, speaking also for Justice McReynolds, took issue, insisting that from the time of their first arraignment the men had been represented by counsel, who had discharged their duty. Had there been lack of opportunity for preparation for trial, he said, this counsel would have obtained a postponement, but no such motion was advanced until new counsel was engaged.

In double file, the demonstrators, including a considerable number of Negroes, marched toward the supreme court.

Police said that after the dispersal order, one of them hit an officer. The bluecoats quickly advanced on the crowd and most of the demonstrators retreated. A few attempted to resist, however, and were arrested.

Previously, a lone policeman, Captain George Walker, had attempted to stop the marchers as they passed the senate office building. He was beaten painfully but returned to duty after first aid treatment. Police said he pulled his revolver but did not use it.

Knight Defers Comment

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Nov. 7 (AP) Thomas E. Knight, Jr., attorney general of Alabama, who defended the death sentences imposed on seven Negroes in the Scottsboro attack case, said Monday he would not discuss the state's procedure until he had read the decision of the United States Supreme court reversing the sentences.

Chief Justice John Anderson, who was the lone dissenter when the Alabama Supreme court affirmed the death sentences, made no comment when informed of the decision but attaches pointed out that the United States Supreme court reversed the decision on the same grounds contained in Justice Anderson's dissenting opinion.

Justice Anderson said the case would be returned to the Alabama Supreme court, reversed here on authority of the United States Supreme court decision, and sent back to Jackson circuit court for a new trial on the original indictments.

Comments From Defenders

NEW YORK, Nov. 7 (AP)—The decision of the United States Supreme court granting a new trial of the seven Negro defendants in the Scottsboro case was commended Monday in statements by officials of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the International Labor Defense, and the American Civil Liberties union.

Walter White, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said: "We are especially gratified in that the decision reaffirms the principle and the precedent established in a previous case, the Arkansas riot cases of 1919, carried to the supreme court by this association in which it was ruled that a trial in a court dominated by a mob is not due process of law. For a second time the highest court has ruled that men of all races are entitled to trial in a court that is free from hostility and prejudice."

Arthur Garfield Hays, general counsel for the American Civil Liberties union, said:

"Every impartial person familiar with the facts must rejoice at the decision and must accord to the Communists the credit for pushing the case to the limit. Unfortunately the fight against injustice is too often left to those who do not believe in our institutions. Certainly this case shows up the respectables."

William L. Patterson, Negro, national secretary of the International Labor Defense said:

"The reversal of the decision in these cases, . . . means that we have forced the supreme court to recognize the obvious lynch-law character of the trial at Scottsboro. . . . The International Labor Defense will now press for an early retrial of the case. We will demand a change of venue from the lynch-ridden town of Scottsboro."

NEW YORK NEWS

NOV 9 1932

NEW TRIAL ORDER IN SCOTTSBORO CASE ASSAILED

Declaring that the Supreme Court decision granting new trials to seven Scottsboro colored boys sentenced to death was nothing more than "instructions to the lower courts on the necessary methods to carry out a legal lynching," William A. Patterson said yesterday that the fight to save the prisoners had only started.

Patterson, a colored graduate of Harvard, is national secretary of the International Labor Defense.

The organization will ask at once for the removal of the boys from the death house at Kirby Prison, he said.

"The Supreme Court decision carefully pointed out that the court erred in denying the boys proper counsel. In other words, the court told the lower court to give the boys counsel and Alabama could go ahead with its legal lynching." Patterson added.

The Scottsboro Decision

Telegraph
11-8-32
Macon, Ga.

The decision of the United States Supreme court yesterday in setting aside the conviction of seven Negroes tried at Scottsboro, Ala., upon the ground that they did not have a fair trial, puts into the law of the country the contention that Orville Park made in the John Downer case in Georgia—a contention which is to be decided by Judge Bascom Deaver, before whom a motion is pending: the principle that a trial must be fair in substance as well as form if the defendant is not to be deprived of his constitutional rights.

The Scottsboro case arose out of a freight train ride in which two white girls allegedly were assaulted by a number of Negroes after they had fought and ejected from the train some white boys who were with the Negroes. The case aroused great feeling in North Alabama. The trial was held amidst that feeling. The statement has been made, whether true or not, that a band played outside the courthouse as the trial progressed. Certainly the verdict was foretold, as it was in the Downer case.

The Supreme court holds that the case must be retried; that counsel must be allowed proper time for its preparation and that in substance the defendants must have a trial actually as fair in its background as it is possible to achieve.

It strikes The Telegraph that the Supreme court decision also is applicable to the Downer case, from Elberton, this state. There the trial was held while a National guard detachment preserved order. The atmosphere was so prejudicial to the defendant that had he not been under the guard of troops, his life would have been taken, doubtless. There was the form of a fair trial, but nobody would seriously contend there was the substance of a fair trial.

In a civilization which rests so strongly upon a foundation of impartial justice, it is essential to achieve the purest form of justice possible. The Supreme court decision makes it more imperative than ever that we in the South, occasionally disturbed and inflamed by race feeling after a particularly atrocious crime of degeneracy, shall take great precaution that what we do in the way of punishment is not only legal, but also morally fair.

Lynchings-1932
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Alabama

3743

NEW YORK
HERALD
NOV 8 1932

The Scottsboro Case

The action of the Supreme Court in ordering a new trial for the seven Negroes convicted in the Scottsboro case will be generally received, we think, with satisfaction and relief. No one cares to see the death penalty carried out where any doubt remains, and it was impossible to feel that the original trial, hastily and apparently carelessly conducted in a natural atmosphere of prejudice, had really established the defendants' guilt beyond reasonable doubt. In the broad view, a new trial can only strengthen confidence in our justice.

The Supreme Court decision is especially interesting because it passes for the first time on the question of how far the "due process" clause guarantees the individual adequate representation by counsel. The Alabama court failed to secure adequate representation for the defendants, and on this point alone its verdict is set aside. Here a new responsibility is laid upon criminal courts, and one which would seem to be wholly in the interests of justice. In many ways the safeguards thrown about the defendant in criminal cases seem rather to defeat than to promote justice, and one might be reluctant to see them strengthened. The reasoning does not apply here. The guilty defendant escapes through being too well rather than too poorly represented by counsel. The decision should be a strong reminder to criminal courts that their duty is to dispense justice and not simply to try cases.

Naturally, it is to be hoped that the defendants now get a scrupulously fair and careful retrial. The South will never solve its race problems, and all the other problems they bring in their train, until it can guarantee full justice to the Negro in assault cases or any others. The South cannot do that, however, until it realizes for itself the importance of doing so. One of the unhappiest features of such affairs is the way in which outside interference, especially when it seems to have a political or propagandist motive unrelated to the real merits of the case, embitters and confuses the issue, sometimes imperiling the interests of those whom it pretends to save

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SPRINGFIELD, MASS.
REPUBLICAN
NOV 8 1932

New Trial For Alabama Negroes

The judgment of the supreme court of the United States in ordering a new trial of the seven Negroes convicted in an Alabama court of attack upon two white girls accords with the opinion that the public generally throughout the country had reached from circumstantial reports of the trial. The opinion, read by Judge Sutherland, is based on the conclusion that the Negroes had been denied the right assured by the 14th amendment of the constitution, which provides that no state "shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law." Specifically the court holds that counsel was not allowed the accused at the time when it was essential to their protection.

This is one of the few cases in which the "due process" clause of the 14th amendment has been applied for the protection of the rights of Negroes. Although the amendment would never have been adopted if the Civil war had not been fought and the Negroes freed, it has been chiefly, and repeatedly, invoked in defense of property.

In their dissenting opinion Justices Butler and McReynolds deny the contention of the majority, basing their judgment, it appears, on the finding of the supreme court of Alabama to the effect that the Negroes were fairly tried. Justice Butler, it is reported, "insisted the evidence sustained the guilty verdict." Such an insistence weakens rather than strengthens the dissenting opinion. It carries a suggestion of willingness to regard as relatively unimportant the really vital point upon which the majority judgment is based; hence raises a question whether the dissenting judges had weighed with sufficient care the evidence regarding it.

The majority opinion will properly be acclaimed as a reassuring unwillingness of the supreme court of the United States to permit the term "due process of law" in such a case as this to include the mere form of law without its vital spirit. The evil of lynch law is not eradicated merely by turning over persons accused to officials and tribunals that act upon the impulses and prejudices that actuate the mob. The judgment is a new milestone in the progress of justice.

NEW YORK TIMES
NOV 8 1932

THE SCOTTSBORO CASE.

Yesterday's decision by the Supreme Court ordering a new trial for the seven Negroes under sentence of death in Alabama turned wholly upon "due process of law." The right to it in all matters affecting life and property is guaranteed by the Constitution to the humblest citizen of the United States. Other alleged grounds of appeal were urged upon the Supreme Court, but all of them were brushed aside. Did the convicted youths have a fair trial? That was the question into which the Supreme Court looked painstakingly, assembling all the relevant facts, before it decided in the negative. The opinion was written by Mr. Justice SUTHERLAND, who has often been called the most "reactionary" member of the Supreme Court, so that it cannot be set down to a weak sentimentalism. Neither can it have been due to the outcry in Washington and in other cities, as well as in Moscow and by European Communists, asserting that a spirit of wicked class prejudice pervades the United States, and that here no justice can be had for the poor and ignorant. Taking no notice of all this, the Supreme Court, with only two judges dissenting, found that the ordinary methods of a fair trial had not been followed in the State courts, and that therefore a new trial, under proper safeguards, must be given the seven Negroes. Nothing was said one way or the other about their guilt or innocence. Only, if they were guilty, the fact must be proved by fair and equitable procedure in court.

However people may feel about the case itself, there will be, we believe, general approval of the lofty position taken by the majority of the Supreme Court. That great tribunal appears once more as mindful of human rights. Of its jurisdiction it may be said, in the well-known words of HOOKER praising the ideal of law, that the least may feel that they are under its care, just as the greatest may know that they are not exempt from its power. It is not often that we see the issue of justice to the lowliest, and possibly most unworthy, so clearly appearing in an important judicial decision. It ought to abate the rancor of extreme radicals, while confirming the faith of the American people in the soundness of their institutions and especially in the integrity of their courts.

NEW YORK
HERALD
NOV 9 1932

Venue Change Sought By Scottsboro Defense

Labor Group Wants Negroes' Retrial at Birmingham

Immediate steps will be taken to obtain a change of venue for the new trial granted to seven Negroes at Scottsboro, Ala., in a decision rendered Monday by the United States Supreme Court, it was announced here yesterday by William L. Patterson, Negro national secretary of the International Labor Defense.

George W. Chamlee, counsel for I. L. D., who has been in on the defense from the start of the trial that resulted in a death sentence being given to the Negroes, will move for the change of venue, hoping to have it set for Birmingham, Ala. In the event the change of venue is denied, he said, an appeal will be taken.

A move is also to be launched by the attorney to have the men released from the death cells so that bail can be set for them.

Red Demonstrators Claim Victory

PARIS, Nov. 8 (UP).—Communist demonstrations at United States embassies have resulted "in a victory over imperialistic Yankee courts," the Communist newspaper "Humanite" said today, commenting on the Scottsboro decision.

NEW BEDFORD, MASS.
TIMES
NOV. 8 - 1932

The Scottsboro Case

Whether the action of the Supreme Court of the United States in setting aside the verdict in the case of the seven Negroes sentenced to death at Scottsboro, Alabama, will profit them anything is a question. It is certain that a new trial will be held, and all things considered it is improbable that the outcome will be other than a second conviction, although as considerable time has now elapsed since the alleged crime, public sentiment may be less inflamed, and imprisonment might be substituted for the death penalty.

The decision of the seven judges was based solely on the ground that the constitutional guarantee of due process of law was violated, in that the defendants had no counsel until the day the trial began. The conclusion of Justice Sutherland, who wrote the opinion, that this made the preparation of an adequate defense impossible, is strongly presented. "In the light of the facts outlined," he said, "the ignorance and illiteracy of the defendants, their youth, the circumstance of public hostility, the imprisonment and the close surveillance of the defendants by the military forces, the fact that their friends and families were all in other states and communication with them necessarily difficult, and above all, that they stood in deadly fear of their lives—we think the failure of the trial court to give them reasonable time and opportunity to secure counsel was a clear denial of due process." In the case of a crime punishable by death, he concluded, this was "little short of judicial murder."

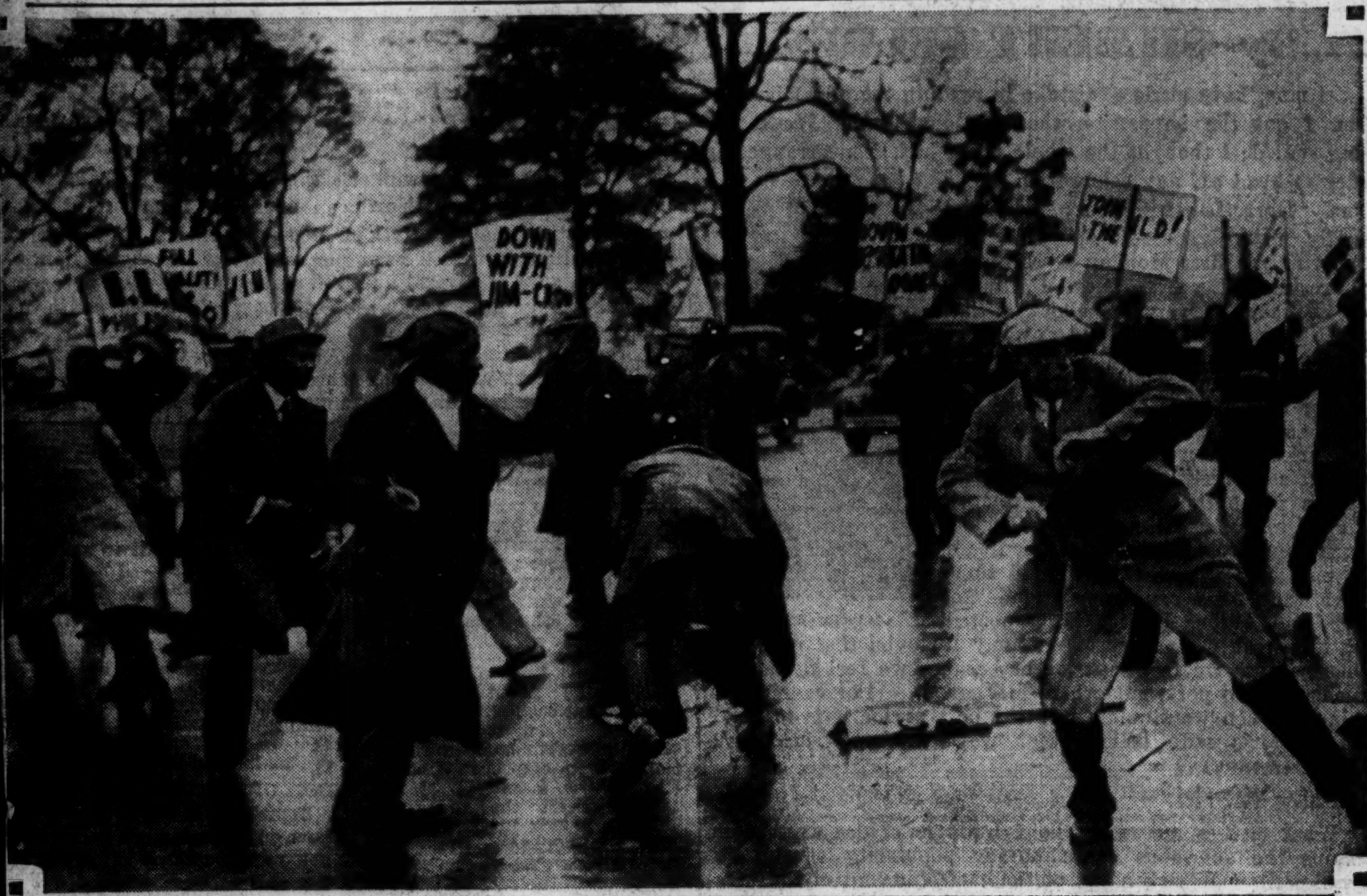
Whatever the consequences of the decision, that characterizaton carries with it a stinging rebuke, from the highest court in the land, of the state courts of Alabama which upheld these convictions. It will doubtless cause resentment in that state. It is to be hoped that it will also cause self-searching, and a change for the better in the treatment of Negroes charged with crime.

It is worthy of note that the Supreme Court, as now constituted, has shown a purpose to uphold the civil rights of Negroes against states that in one way or another are reluctant to recognize their equality with whites before the Law. The Alabama decision follows two recent ones overthrowing state laws in Texas abridging the Negroes' political rights.

New York Evening Journal

NOV 8 1932

When Capital Police Dispersed Scottsboro Picketers


DOWN WITH JIM-CROW
I.L.D.
JOIN THE I.L.D.!

Washington police are shown dispersing the 75 Reds who attempted to picket the United States Supreme Court as a protest against the death penalty for seven negroes at Scottsboro, Ala. Nightsticks were wielded by police as 19 arrests were made. The Supreme Court set aside the death sentences and granted a new trial to the convicted men. Picture from International News Photgraph Service.

TROY, N. Y.
EVE. RECORD
NOV 8

THE SCOTTSBORO CASE.

Seven Ne~~gro boys~~ who were convicted of attacking two white girls in Scottsboro, Ala., will have another trial. The United States Supreme Court held yesterday that conditions were such that they had no fair chance to present their case. Public opinion was insistenly against them; they were ignorant and did not understand the situation; they were given legal aid which was not equal to the task; and the machinery of justice was hurried in such fashion that it was not justice at all.

This is the first time a case of this sort has gone to the United States Supreme Court; and the division of the tribunal shows a decided objection to this kind of treatment for defendants in a criminal case. It should not be forgotten that there is always an intense prejudice against the defendants in a case of this sort and that therefore every possible opportunity should be afforded them to escape the implications of an aroused opinion. The boys were not given such opportunity. It is quite possible they are guilty. But their guilt should be proved by legal process, not charged against them on information and belief.

NEW YORK
[redacted] WORLD - Telegram
NOV 8

THE SCOTTSBORO DECISION.

NONE can read without elation the Supreme Court's 7-to-2 decision granting new trials to the seven Negro boys sentenced to hang for alleged assa~~ult in the~~ Scottsboro affair.

Here was not only even-handed equity for those of an exploited race but rebuke for those who pervert the courts of the land as instruments for race and class intimidation.

There is nobility in these words read by Justice Sutherland:—

"However guilty the defendants on due inquiry might prove to have been, they were, until convicted, presumed to be innocent. It was the duty of the courts having their cases in charge to see that they were denied no necessary incident of fair trial."

Such justice the seven judges found has been denied by the Alabama trial court. The Negro boys were denied time and opportunity to obtain adequate counsel. The trial "from beginning to end took place in an atmosphere of tense, hostile and excited public sentiment."

That they were "ignorant and illiterate" strangers and stood "in deadly peril of their lives" made the court's duty to protect their rights more imperative.

It was unfortunate that Communists sought to picket the Supreme Court prior to reading of the decision. Their demonstration, of course, had no effect, since the opinion had been reached some days before. The same cannot be said for the picketing mob which helped to turn the original Alabama trial into a virtual court lynching.

The Supreme Court found that the defendants had been denied due process under the Fourteenth Amendment. "To hold otherwise," it concluded, "would be to ignore the fundamental postulate, already adverted to, that there are certain immutable principles of justice which inhere in the very idea of free government which no member of the Union may disregard."

This decision should be a warning to the lower courts, especially of the South, that the Negro race still is protected by the Constitution of the United States.

Lynchings-1932

Alabama

Legal Punishment for Rape

BROOKLYN, N. Y.
EAGLE
OCT 12 1932

States' Rights—Race Issue.

More than a mere race issue is the one over the fate of the seven Scottsboro Negro boys, which is in the hands of the Supreme Court of the United States. Old as the Constitution is the everlasting controversy as to State rights. No one denies that it is the privilege of Alabama to make assault with intent to outrage a woman a capital offense, though most of the States do nothing of the sort. And many lawyers think that the practice of reviewing in Washington a criminal case where the highest State courts have passed upon it is one not to be encouraged.

However, there are several considerations that make this particular conviction debatable. Alabama has no right to flout the reconstruction amendments to the Constitution of the nation by treating a colored person who is accused in a way different from that which would be adopted with a white person similarly accused. The first ignoring of the right to be represented by counsel, followed by the later refusal to let jury talesmen be examined as to their race prejudice obsessions, the exclusion of Negroes from the jury lists and above all the mob spirit demanding a lynching and compelling the calling out of the National Guard would seem to prove that equal justice was not aimed at.

The two white girls who accused the Negroes were train-jumpers. The Negroes were train-jumpers. Low-life romping even if it ends in a technical assault is a very different thing from an individual attempt to [illegible] and home-loving [illegible]an. Whitness of skin is no guarantee of feminine respectability, North or South.

For these reasons we are sure that the Justices of the Supreme Court will be inclined to deliberate very seriously on handling the seven defendants over to the Alabama executioner. No case before the highest court in the land in recent years has involved so many human lives as this one. And that is a rather important consideration.

DECATUR, ALA.
DAILY
OCT 8 [illegible]

"SCOTTSBORO DAY"

Today is "Scottsboro Day" throughout the world. The International Labor Defense League and Communists have set aside this date as a day of protest against the decision of Alabama courts decreeing death sentences to several young negroes, convicted of attacking two white girls on a freight train in Jackson county.

Alabama people, Alabama courts and Alabama institutions will receive plenty of condemnation throughout the world today, much of it from people who know absolutely nothing about Alabama and even less about the trials of these defendants.

The Daily takes this occasion to commend the people of this state and their generally calm attitude in the face of all this furore. White citizens and negroes alike have kept splendid control of themselves and, in the main, have declined to have anything to do with the international movement which, after all, is a political gesture, the Scottsboro trials only providing a vehicle on which the communist agitators can ride into the spotlight.

The fate of the negroes rests with the United States supreme court. If that high tribunal says that a new trial must be held, the people of Alabama will provide it cheerfully, despite the fact that, no doubt, they will wonder what the supreme court has to do with the matter.

If the court holds another hearing is not necessary to provide the defendants with their constitutional guarantees, the law will be permitted to take its course. The Daily trusts that the people of our beloved state will continue to exercise the same calm and deliberate judgment with which they have faced the situation during the trying months gone by.

RICHMOND, VA.
NEWS-LEADER
OCT 10 1932

THE SCOTTSBORO CASE.

The Scottsboro case, which is up for argument in the supreme court of the United States today, represents one type of criminal proceedings in which justice is very apt to fail. In the South, when rape is alleged, the average lover of justice is likely to stand aside less his insistence on fair play for accused men be construed as disloyalty to his own race and as condonation of the offence. The silence of those who should speak out for justice usually means that the mob-mind asserts itself at its worst. There is every reason to believe that this happened in the trial of the young Negroes charged with attacking two white girls who were "beating their way" on a freight train below Memphis.

The details of the charge against the Negroes and the past history of the girls are too unpleasant to be reported here. We can only say that when men paraded the street, and foolish Communists injected themselves into the proceedings as defenders of the Negroes, and bands played outside the courtroom during the trial, a fair hearing was so manifestly impossible that an appeal was necessary. In the quiet atmosphere of a supreme court that has shown itself disposed to insist on justice for racial minorities, the case can be reviewed in all its bearings. We are glad it will be.

CHICAGO, ILL.
NEWS
OCT 12 1932

THAT CELEBRATED SCOTTSBORO CASE.

Since the opening of its October term last Monday, the United States Supreme court has denied no fewer than 180 petitions for the review of cases decided in lower tribunals. It is significant, therefore, that the court decided to hear the legally and morally important Scottsboro case of the seven Negro boys who are under sentence of death as the result of a jury verdict which found them guilty of rape, and imposed upon them the supreme penalty provided by the criminal code of Alabama. The verdict has been upheld by the Alabama courts.

Whether the Supreme court sets aside the verdict or permits it to stand, all friends of equal rights and impartial justice rejoice in the circumstance that the federal issues raised on appeal by the defendants and their public-spirited New York counsel were deemed vital enough to demand consideration by the highest tribunal of the nation.

The contentions of the counsel for the defense were, in brief, that the seven Negro boys had been convicted by a prejudiced jury in an atmosphere of intense popular passion and hate which precluded a fair trial; that they were deprived of their constitutional right to be defended by competent lawyers; that the mob outside of the court influenced the verdict of the jury, and, finally—a point with profound implications—that Negroes were improperly excluded from the jury which tried the sensational case. Trial by jury, according to the philosophy of the law, is trial by the county, and, counsel argued, to take the position that a Negro defendant is not entitled to representation of his race on a jury in a criminal case is virtually to pack the jury against him.

Some of those issues have been passed upon by the Supreme court. The precedents are encouraging. The fundamental rights conferred by the fourteenth amendment on millions of Negroes are not properly safeguarded if Negroes are barred from jury service, especially when members of their race are defendants under grave indictments.

Miserable Pretext For Lynching Injustices

Courier 10-22-32
Pittsburgh Pa.

Evelyn Scott, Author, Heads List of Southern White Women Who Protest Mob Terror—Brand Scottsboro Case As "Perverted Court Procedure."

NEW YORK, Oct. 20—The myth of "Southern chivalry" used as a pretext for the lynching of Negroes was severely attacked in a protest signed by scores of prominent Southern women from all sections of the South, headed by a committee including Evelyn Scott of Tennessee, author of "The Wave;" Eleanor Copenhaver of Virginia, Southern field secretary of the Y. W. C. A., Anita Brenner, of Texas, author of "Idols Behind Altars"; Grace Lumpkin of South Carolina, author of the recent novel, "To Make My Bread," and Lois Macdonald, of South Carolina, instructor in economics at New York University.

The Scottsboro case, in which seven boys were condemned to death for rape at a trial whose legality was tested before the Supreme Court of the United States on October 10, is branded by these women, most of whom are writers, educators and artists as a "flagrant instance of court procedure perverted in the name of chivalry."

They protested against all similar unfair trials and extreme sentences on those accused of attacks on white women.

Every State Represented

Every state in the South was represented by the signatures. The protest stated in part, that "as Southern women and as adult citizens of 20th century America, we reject the 'ideal' of 'Southern chivalry' that supposes the honor of Southern womanhood can best be preserved by such savages actions as the trial, conviction and contemplated electrocution of the seven young Scottsboro boys."

Commenting on the prompt response from Southern women in the matter of the protest, Evelyn Scott, prominent novelist, said:

"As a Southern woman and a writer, I have always been deeply shamed by the fact that white women have been made the pretext in the South for acts of mob violence upon a peaceful and downtrodden race.

"The Scottsboro case is one of the most disgraceful of a long succession of acts of which I have personal knowledge. It is a monstrous example of the deliberate campaign that is being waged in the South to terrorize the Negro. This campaign is worse than the Spanish Inquisition, more cruel than the witch hunting terror in New England. People are hunted out on barest suspicion and murdered without trial or in sham trials with the verdict agreed to in advance.

Women Must Protest

"Once and for all Southern women must protest in strongest terms against mob terror and lynching. They must tear the mask of chivalry from the acts of brutish men who are swayed by no emotion other than race hatred. Not chivalry, but the most primitive savagery rules the mob responsible for the Scottsboro case and the many other such flagrant floutings of justice."

The protest in full is as follows:

"We, Southern women, protest against the use by Southern men of the excuse of the 'protection of Southern womanhood' to condone lynchings of Negroes by mobs of violent men. We protest equally when this same excuse is used to condone unfair trias and extreme sentences on those accused of attacks on white women.

"A flagrant instance of court procedure perverted in the name of chivalry is the Scottsboro case, in which eight young Negro boys were condone unfair trials and extreme were tried within a week of their arrest, in a strange town where they had neither money nor friends, an accusation of rape. The boys without proper legal defense and with no pleas made for them. The juries were impaneled from a disorderly mob outside. The trial was be' in an atmosphere of martial law.

"The record of trial and the reports of procedure both within and without the court room indicate that there was no possibility of a fair trial in this case, and that the penalties inflicted are inhuman.

"As Southern women, and as adult citizens of 20th century America, we refuse to hide any longer behind the protecting wall of prejudice and violence. We protest against the 'ideal' of 'Southern chivalry' that supposes that the honor of Southern womanhood can best be preserved by such savage and unjust actions as the trial, conviction, and contemplated electrocution of the seven young Scottsboro Negro boys."

FAMOUS CASE STILL IN THE JUDGES' HANDS

Call

Supreme Court's Opinion May Come After Election

10-21-32

Kansas City, Mo.

WASHINGTON, —The United States Supreme court holds the fate of the eight condemned Scottsboro youths, now in the death cells in the Alabama town. The case was heard on Tuesday, Oct. 11, but to date no decision has been handed down. Communist sympathizers and International Labor Defense officials are backing up the printed statement of the Daily Worker, a Communist newspaper published in New York which says the supreme court holds the Scottsboro ruling until after election.

Among the spectators in the court room last Tuesday were the mother of Tom Mooney, now serving a life sentence in California and Tom Heflin, the Negro-hater from South Carolina.

Case For The Defense

Walter H. Pollak, internationally known New York lawyer, presented the defense for the International Labor Defense. He established conclusively:

1.—That the original arrest of the boys was for a fight with white boys, while both were riding a freight train.

2.—That the two girls, both identified as known prostitutes, made no charge of rape at the time of the arrest, nor did they present any evidence of rape or assault. The examining doctor's evidence, in fact proved that the girls were not attacked.

3.—That the girls made no charges until after they were themselves arrested and held without charges in the Scottsboro jail.

Trial Under Mob Control

4.—The case was "tried" under mob control. In a town of 2,300 population, a mob of 10,000 stood waiting with ropes and guns to lynch the boys and burn them at the stake. A brass band played outside the court house windows when it was announced that the first two boys, Weems and Norris, had been sentenced to death.

5.—None of the defendants had a legal defense. Roddy, who was sent in by the Interdenominational Preachers Alliance of Negroes said in court he would not defend the boys but was there as an "observer." The judge appointed "the Scottsboro bar" to defend the boys: an outright farce, for not one of the lawyers interviewed any witnesses, and they did not even make the opening or the closing appeals to the jury, nor the motions necessary for new trial.

6.—Negroes were excluded from the panel of the jury, according to the jim-crow tactics of Southern courts.

"If ever there was a case," declared Walter Pollak, "that required preparation, this was the case. Yet the boys were arrested arraigned, tried, convicted and sentenced to death—all in less than two weeks."

Refusal of a new trial was pushed by the Attorney General of Alabama, Thomas E. Knight, Jr., who is the son of Judge Thomas E. Knight of the Alabama Supreme court which upheld the verdict of the Scottsboro court.

Mr. Knight very blandly argued that because Roddy and the official lawyers appointed by the Scottsboro court did not call any witnesses, it was due to their "strategy" and not to their treacherous cooperation with the lynch court. He also argued that if six out of seven judges of the Alabama court had declared against a new trial, that proved the boys didn't deserve one. "The mob"—he admitted it was there — "was not hostile, since it committed no act of violence."

POLICE BAR PICKETING OF SUPREME COURT

Constitution

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1.—(UP)—Police tonight said they would not permit picketing of the United States supreme court next Monday morning when the famous Scottsboro decision may be handed down.

11-2-32

William L. Patterson, secretary of the International Labor Defense, issued a statement today saying representatives of organizations totaling more than half a million members would march in a picket line before the court building on Monday.

Atlanta, Ga.

The Scottsboro Decision— Why the Delay?

THE United States Supreme Court heard the case of seven of the nine innocent Negro boys of Scottsboro on October 10th.

Daily Worker

The attorneys for the International Labor Defense presented the legal position for the Negro and white masses who in hundreds of monster open demonstrations have themselves time and again stated their decision. In no uncertain terms the masses have declared their verdict of innocence on the Scottsboro boys.

11-3-32

Only the verdict passed on the streets of American and European cities by the working class has kept these innocent boys alive. Three times the working class has reversed the ruling classes's decision of death in the Scottsboro case.

New York, N.Y.

THE legal case presented by the International Labor Defense conforming in all respects to capitalist rules of legal procedure disclosed in undeniable manner the criminal nature of the capitalist activities against the Scottsboro boys. The issue of law and of fact were clear. Long deliberation was unnecessary.

On the 24th of October the Supreme Court adjourned. No formal decision had been rendered, but the failure to render a formal decision was in itself a clear-cut decision of a tremendously significant political character. The Supreme Court does not convene again until November 7, but it is clear that it will not render its decision until after the election. There is an interesting parallel in the famous Dred Scott case of 1857 which upheld the institution of slavery. That opinion, given by Judge Taney (praised by Hoover in his Baltimore speech on Oct. 31) was actually made before election, but, in the words of one hsitorian "**was withheld from publication in order not to increase the excitement of the presidential election then pending.**"

* * *

THE silence of the Supreme Court proclaims:

That it recognizes that a decision adverse or favorable before the elections would have a definite effect upon them.

That it must delay the political conclusion to be drawn from its decision until after November 8th.

The Supreme Court is part and parcel of the Bosses' machinery of terror.

The Supreme Court is an instrument of the bosses for deepening the boss-created hatred between Negro and white workers.

The decision of silence must be a new force cementing the unity of Negro and white workers against the oppression and terror of the ruling class. The decision of the masses must be the last word in the Scottsboro case.

Before this "court of last illusions" the united strength of the working class in mass demonstrations must thunder its contemptuous denunciation

The Scottsboro Boys Shall Not Die!

We demand their Immediate Unconditional Release!

Lynchings - 1932

Legal Punishment for Rape. 3745

Alabama

3745

NATIONAL PRAYER DAY IS URGED FOR SCOTTSBORO BOYS

Courier 1-16-32

Pittsburgh, Pa.

BOSTON, Mass., Jan. 14—Sunday, Jan. 17, is selected as a nationwide "Scottsboro Lads Prayer Day," in an appeal to the race by the National Equal Rights League, for prayers to God on that day to save the eight colored boys in Kilby prison, Alabama, from an unjust execution through a new trial. Sunday is the day before the appeal will be heard for a new trial by the Supreme Court of the State of Alabama.

The League's appeal urges the race's resort to prayer because of the awful fate now hanging over so large a group of such young persons, because of the uncertainty of court justice in a lynching state in cases where the inter-racial, inter-sex issue is involved, and because of the unfortunate controversy as to control of the court defense by two antagonistic organizations.

Under conditions so critical, so difficult, and so vital to life protection to the race on furtherance or defeat of legal-lynching, of which this is a monumental case, the League calls upon all churches, organizations meeting on Jan. 17, and individuals in their homes to pray for success of the appeal to be made in court the next day.

Bishop W. J. Walls of the Zion Connection, vice-president of the League, is joined by the president and secretary in issuing the "Prayer Day" appeal to the race.

Roddy Withdraws From Scottsboro Attack Cases

Advertiser

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., Jan. 14.—(AP)—Stephen R. Roddy, Chattanooga attorney and his associate, Milo Moody, Scottsboro lawyer, have withdrawn as defense counsel for the eight negro youths condemned to death in the Scottsboro assault cases, Roddy announced here today.

1-15-32

The National Association for Advancement of Colored People also has withdrawn from the case, the action being taken after a telegram signed by the eight negroes repudiating the organization for the International Labor Defense was received by the N. A. A. C. P.

NEW YORK HERALD-TRIBUNE

JAN 11 1932

Scottsboro Trial Protest Disgusts DefenseCounsel

Aroused When Mass Meeting for Doomed Negroes Becomes Attack on Others

1,500 Contribute $168

Tennessean Decries Tactics Advocated by Speakers

A mass meeting yesterday at the Star Casino, Park Avenue and 107th Street, called by the International Labor Defense in protest against the conviction of the nine Scottsboro Negro boys for attacking two white girls on a freight train in Alabama, developed principally into a protest meeting against the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. It also proved a revelation to George W. Chamlee, former prosecutor of Hamilton County, Tennessee, who heads the five lawyers engaged by the International Labor Defense to obtain a new trial for the convicted Negroes.

Speaker after speaker arose and denounced the N. A. A. C. P. and its agents, charging them with being a reactionary agency, under capitalist and white domination.

The N. A. A. C. P. recently washed its hands of the Scottsboro case and placed full responsibility for the fate of the convicted Negroes upon the I. L. D. after, it charged, the I. L. D. had persuaded the parents and guardians of the convicted boys to refuse the aid of the N. A. A. C. P. attorneys, Clarence Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hays.

As a counter stroke the I. L. D. yesterday demanded the turning over to it of funds which the N. A. A. C. P. had collected for the Scottsboro defense. An independent collection, taken up by means of white women going through the audience of about 1,500 and waving bills and calling for "More contributions, comrades!" netted $168.73.

Other speakers, white and black, attacked the South as the home of "bloody Bourbons," those Fascist murderers," and "Ku-Kluxer wild beasts," at which Mr. Chamlee, from Chattanooga, a Democrat and a Baptist shifted rather uncomfortably in his seat. His eyes widened somewhat as he heard J. Louis Engdahl, secretary of the I. L. D., say that it was their task to "tie up the Scottsboro case with the struggle against landlords, with the struggle for bread and for jobs, so that we can eventually draw 10,000,000 American workers into the class struggle and move on to victory."

His face was a study as Mrs. Sadie Van Veen called for "more solidarity, more protest, and for Negroes and whites to fight together and to die together in the struggle that must continue until the workers come into control, when there will be no color question, no foreign-born question; when we shall all be brothers and comrades under a workers' government." It grew pained as Richard B. Moore, from the Barbadoes, spoke of organizing street demonstrations and declaimed that "there is only one war we have to fight, and that is the war of the working class against the ruling class."

When he finally arose to speak he unrolled his six feet and more of spare frame and in a pronounced Southern accent told the meeting that he was a Democrat and a Baptist, and that his ideas did not coincide with theirs on many things. "This has been a revelation to me," he said. "I've never seen anything like it." The crowd laughed.

"I reserve to myself the right to have my opinions, just as I accord you the right to hold yours. I am going to do my utmost in the defense of these boys, carrying the case to the United States Supreme Court, if necessary. But I am employed and am acting as an attorney only in this case, and as an attorney I do not think that there should be any outside demonstrations concerning a case in a court of law. It is my business, by my presentation and argument of the case, to make the demonstration of the innocence of those boys."

Other speakers were B. D. Amis, of the League of Struggle for Negro Rights; Lowell Wakefield and Joseph R. Brodsky. Carl Hacker, head of the New York district of the I. L. D., presided.

CHAMLEE ABSOLVED IN ALLEGED SCHEME

Communist Editor Says Lawyer Blameless In 'Frameup' At Huntsville

Advertiser

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., Jan. 15.—(AP)—George Proctor of New York, who said he represented a Communist publication, New Masses, made public tonight an affidavit absolving George W. Chamlee, attorney, of all charges in connection with the alleged "frame up" of one of two girls involved in a Scottsboro, Ala., assault case.

1-16-32

Miron Pearlman, Chattanooga prize fighter recently charged Chamlee had employed him to get the girl drunk and have her write a letter repudiating evidence she gave at the trial of eight negroes. The girl testified the negroes attacked her and the defendants were sentenced to death.

Proctor said he sent Pearlman to Huntsville to get information for articles he was writing about the case. He said Chamlee, an attorney for the condemned negroes, had nothing to do with the plan.

Proctor said he primarily wanted to know more about the character of the two girls involved. He denied instructing Pearlman to get the girl drunk and said he did not believe she was drunk. He added that he thought the girl told the truth in the letter allegedly obtained from her by Pearlman in which she said she had not been attacked.

Proctor said he believed Pearlman had been terrified by Huntsville police because of the charges against Chamlee.

NEW YORK TIMES

JAN 10 1932

ALABAMA APPROVES ACTION OF DARROW

Refusal to Work With Communist Counsel in Scottsboro Case Wins Praise.

OUTSIDERS ARE RESENTED

State Annoyed at Exploitation of Trial of Eight Negroes as a Class Struggle.

By JOHN TEMPLE GRAVES 2d.

Editorial Correspondence, THE NEW YORK TIMES

BIRMINGHAM, Jan. 7.—The popularity of Clarence Darrow in Alabama has never been anything more than microscopic, but it is a little nearer being visible to the naked eye now than it was before he came, saw and refused a part in defense of eight Negroes whose death sentences for alleged criminal assault on two white girls near Scottsboro last year are held in stay pending a plea for a new trial before the Alabama Supreme Court on Jan. 18. The near visibility is due not so much to feeling against the Negroes as to the fact that Mr. Darrow has refused to work with the Communist International Labor Defense which Alabamians believe has forced its way without warrant into the case.

The refinement of reasoning with which Mr. Darrow explained his withdrawal has little attention here. He declared that he had "no quarrel with Communists as such," but that they had prejudiced the case; that it was impossible to "mix politics with law," and that his own appearance, under the circumstances, would simply inspire more prejudice. Retained as a representative of the Association for the Advancement of Colored People, he offered to disassociate himself from his client organization if George W. Chamblee Sr., attorney for the International Labor Defense, would do the same. In other words, Mr. Darrow has damned, not the Communists, but the situation which they have brought about through their activities in the case.

No Class Struggle Seen.

In local opinion, however, he has refused the red flag, and that is enough to endear him to many Alabamians who consider the legal issues involved in the Scottsboro case of less import now than the social and economic ones injected into it by the International Labor Defense. Liberal opinion here—and there is plenty of it—is openminded on the disputed fairness of the trial and the guilt of the accused, even if it is convinced that stories of innocence and injustice have grown mightily in transit around the world. Its mind is utterly closed, however, to argument that the case in any sense involves a class or economic struggle.

As the date for the Supreme Court hearing approaches, there is a surprising lack of comment in Alabama newspapers. Whatever has appeared has been more concerned with Mr. Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hays, who was to have been associated with him in the case if the Communists had withdrawn. The Montgomery Advertiser editorialized at length on Mr. Darrow's statement that it is impossible to "mix law and politics," taking issue with him on the abstraction. The Birmingham News ran a long interview with him, in which he was quoted as endorsing Newton D. Baker for President, philosophizing over human motives in general, admitting himself in financial need of keeping up his law practice, reminiscing about the Scopes trial and the Leopold-Loeb case, scoffing at the Pope's recent gesture for bringing all Christians into the Roman Catholic Church, musing over H. L. Mencken and matrimony, insisting on Thomas Edison's agnosticism and declaring that the world must "starve itself out" as a solution for present economic troubles.

Calm Hearing Desired.

There is nothing shallow in this seeming indifference to the Scottsboro case. It reflects, rather, a desire that the hearing next week may be conducted in an atmosphere of judicial calm and that there be no recurrence of the passion at home and abroad which has prejudiced the case and misrepresented the State.

There is no doubt that Alabamians have been impressed with the international hue and cry over these eight Negroes convicted of an offense which Southern law and Southern opinion punish with death. There is no denying, either, that many have come to believe there may be reasonable doubt of the prisoners' guilt and are glad that the case is to be reviewed in surroundings remote from the unavoidable excitement of the original scene and time. But it would be hard to find many Alabamians who believe that the State's skirts are less than clean in the effort to see impartial justice done throughout the whole affair or who do not resent the misinformation and propaganda that have made Alabama a target for so much abuse from the very beginning.

Without benefit of the international labor defense, Theodore Dreiser, or any other outside influences, a mistrial was declared here recently in the case of a Negro accused of killing two Birmingham society girls under circumstances which had aroused the entire State. This trial is being pointed as answer enough to those who believe that the Negro is utterly without benefit of law in the South today.

Chamlee Studies Appeal Procedure

Advertiser

1-12-32

Montgomery Ala.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11—(Special)—George W. Chamless, Chattanooga attorney who is chief counsel for the International Labor defense in the case of the eight negroes sentenced to death in Scottsboro, Alabama, on charges of having attacked two white girls, spent Monday in Washington investigating the procedure of presenting an appeal to the United States Supreme Court, he said a petition for such an appeal would be filed should the Alabama Supreme Court fail to grant a new trial to the negroes at its session Jan. 21.

Mr. Chamlee, a former attorney general of Tennessee, has been in New York consulting other attorneys for the International Labor Defense in connection with his case and delivered an address before the New York Bar Association on the subject Saturday afternoon.

The Supreme Court probably would not permit the case to be filed until a ruling from the Alabama court.

He left for Chattanooga Monday afternoon. Mr. Chamlee had no further comment to make here in connection with his denial of charges that he had employed a former Chattanooga pugilist in an effort to induce one of the girls in the case to repudiate her testimony given at the Scottsboro trial.

WATERBURY, CONN.
REPUBLICAN

DEC 31 1931

Communists Should Withdraw

THE unhappy effect of Communist intervention in behalf of persons who may be in danger of injustice at the hands of the law, when such intervention is not necessary, is illustrated by the case of the Scottsboro Negroes. The International Labor Defense, a Communist organization, has gone to the aid of these eight Negroes, under sentence of death for alleged attacks on two white girls. There is the gravest doubt that these Negroes are guilty and a plea for a new trial is to made to the Alabama supreme court.

If there were no other legal aid for them available, the intervention of the Communist organization would be welcome. But the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, an organization known and respected throughout the nation, is ready and eager to go to their defence. It wishes to employ the distinguished lawyers, Clarence Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hays, to present the Negroes' case to the supreme court. But the lawyers engaged by the Communist body will not withdraw nor drop their connection with that body, and Mr. Darrow and Mr. Hays refuse to serve in cooperation with a Communist organization. It looks, then, as if the accused Negroes would be deprived of the aid of these eminent attorneys.

The attitude of Mr. Darrow and Mr. Hays is not hard to understand. They are aware of the prejudice that obtains against Communists. It ought not to obtain in a court of law, but unhappily it often does. Mr. Darrow and Mr. Hays do not care to undertake the defence of the Negroes under that disadvantage. Under these circumstances the International Labor Defence ought to withdraw from the field and it would do so if it were entirely sincere, and not seeking to use the case for propaganda purposes. By refusing to retire when a better defender appears it simply augments the suspicion of Communist motives.

The Scottsboro Case and Its Sad Consequences

Independent

1-14-32

Atlanta, Ga.

Upon its face, it seems that the eight boys doomed to death at Scottsboro, Alabama, have lost their best chance to save their lives by the fight between the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and the International Labor Defense movement. While the time was flitting away the opportunity for these poor, under priviledged boys to save their lives, these two institutions were engaged in a battle of who shall and who shan't—"I can't and you shan't." The paramount question in this case is to save the boys from death, but these organizations subordinated the question to one of who shall outshine in this celebrated case.

Results to date are: The International Labor Defense is going on with the case, and the N. A. C. P. has withdrawn from the case and left the poor, unfortunate boys to root hog or die, without adequate defense in court.

The N. A. A. C. P. published to the world that it represented the boys and were their authorized attorneys; and upon these representations collected a defense fund from the public; and they could not in ethics or good conscience withdraw from the case. The case was naturally the work of the N. A. A. C. P., and the Association should not have yielded to any other tribe or organization. The public will not accept its excuse in good faith. A lawyer has no right in ethics, or law to quit his client's case when it will prejudice his interest. Like the doctor is by his patients, he must not leave a client when his life or interest is endangered thereby. The boys' case has been largely prejudiced by the row between the officers of the two organizations, and both were in honor bound to stick to the last.

The N. A. A. C. P. has impaired its usefulness. The public will call them quitters. The public will hesitate to contribute to the movement, if the Association is going to set up a policy of starting and quitting; of collecting defense funds and then deserting upon the grounds that it cannot work with another organization working for the same end and engaged in the same case.

What is the N. A. A. C. P. going to do with the defense fund it collected to help the little waifs? If they were not engaged to fight the case, then why did they go so far? The N. A. A. C. P. calls the I. L. D. lawyers, communists; their attorneys say, they are not communists, but democrats, republicans, Methodists, and Baptists and are opposed to communistic propaganda. But, if the I. L. D. deserts the doomed boys as the N. A. A. C. P. has done, the effort to get a new trial for the boys must fail, and the helpless victims of a devilish plot will be in court without counsel to defend them.

The two bunches are about alike when it comes to radicalism. The officers of the N. A. A. C. P. are just about as wild as and as incendiary in their preachments as the I. L. D. Neither are too friendly to the government. Both are bolsheviks at times, and often border on communism when it serves their purposes. But, the Association hurt both itself and the boys by quitting the case just at the time when it was ripe for argument for a new trial before the Supreme Court of Alabama. The boys are left victims of an organized prejudice thirsting for Negro blood, to avenge a crime possibly never committed.

If the N. A. A. C. P. did not have a contract with the boys, or their agents, to represent them, they misled the public by misrepresentation; and after all, if the boys lose their case, the N. A. A. C. P. cannot be held blameless. It would have been far better for all concerned, if the N. A. A. C. P. had never entered the case. Their lawyers did not withdraw from the case, but quit the case, and prejudiced it in the eyes of the people.

The interest of the boys was overlooked in the rush and scramble for public notoriety. The N. A. A. C. P. has never deserted a case of the classes, but the boys belong to the common herd—the masses. The boys are not high-hatters, but an under-privileged set of waifs.

Record Completed On Eight Doomed Negroes

Advertiser

1-19-32

Montgomery Ala.

Completed record in the case of Haywood Patterson, one of the eight negroes convicted at Scottsboro and condemned to death for criminally assaulting two young white women was filed yesterday in the office of the clerk of the Alabama Supreme Court. This perfects appeals taken in all eight cases. Records in the other seven were filed some time ago.

The other defendants in addition to Patterson, are Ozie Powell, Willie Roberson, Andy Wright, Olen Montgomery, Eugene Williams, Charlie Weems and Clarence Norris.

Appeals in all cases will be submitted to the Supreme Court Thursday. Atty. Gen. Knight, Jr., will represent the State on that occasion. Defense counsel for the negroes, includes G. W. Chamblee and G. W. Chamblee, Jr., of Chattanooga, Tenn., also Joseph R. Brodsky, Allen Taub and Irving Schwab of New York.

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment for Rape

Alabama

3746

Send No More Funds On Alabama Case, N.A.A.C.P. Advises

Courier 1-23-32

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Announcement to Public Following Association's Withdrawal From Case Asks That No [illegible] Funds Be Sent For Scottsboro

NEW YORK, Jan. 21—A public announcement today from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People asks that no more funds for the defense of the Scottsboro cases be sent to the National Office inasmuch as the N. A. A. C. P. has withdrawn from the case. The statement declares that as soon as a firm of certified public accountants has completed an audit of sums received and expended in preparing for the defence of these cases, a full financial report will be made public. The N. A. A. C. P. statement is as follows:

"The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People asks that no further funds be sent to its National Office for specific use in the Scottsboro cases. By vote of its Board of Directors it has withdrawn from these cases. All further such funds received will be held unexpended, either for return to the donors or for such other dispositions as the donors may indicate.

"Certified Public Accountants will make this week the annual audit of the Association's accounts, this having been done each year of the Association's existence, as is well known. Because of the Association's withdrawal from the Scottsboro cases the auditors have been requested to make a special report on all sums received and expended for the cases, which will include legal fees, documents such as the 790-page bills of exceptions filed in the Alabama Supreme Court, investigations and other necessary expenses incurred in these cases. The Association announces that as soon as this audit is completed a full financial statement will be made to all contributors for these cases and to the public.

"In the meantime, as there seems still to be some confusion as to the position of the N. A. A. C. P. we restate it as follows:

"The N. A. A. C. P. was in the case from the beginning. Members of its staff made six trips to Alabama, and talked with the boys in Kilby prison. On those occasions the boys asked verbally, and some of them in writing, that the N. A. A. C. P. defend them.

"Moreover, the N. A. A. C. P. has in its possession signed vouchers showing fees paid the two lawyers who defended the boys at the original trial. In response to requests from the boys the N. A. A. C. P. retained a firm of criminal lawyers in Alabama of the highest standing, Messrs. Fort Beddow and Ray; and Messrs. Clarence Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hayes, the last named volunteering his services.

"On Dec. 28 last, guardians of the boys and the boys themselves were persuaded to sign a telegram repudiating the N. A. A. C. P. defense which the boys had originally asked for. A proposal from Messrs. Darrow and Hayes that all attorneys sign a public statement saying that they represented no organization but the boys only, was declined by the I. L. D. who insisted that Messrs. Darrow and Hayes must not only repudiate the N. A. A. C. P., but work under communist direction.

"Messrs. Darrow and Hayes felt that under the circumstances the only thing they could do was to withdraw from the case, and the N. A. A. C. P. Board of Directors backed up their decision. This is where the matter now rests."

Hearing Today For 8 Negroes

Advertiser

1-21-32

Defense Attorneys In Scottsboro Case Will Plead To High Court

Montgomery, Ala.

Fate of the eight negroes, convicted in the Jackson Circuit Court last Spring and sentenced to death, for criminally assaulting two young white girls, will be placed in the hands of the Supreme Court of Alabama today, when appeals in all eight cases will be submitted to the State's highest tribunal. Submission of the appeals will take place soon after the high court convenes at 10 a.m.

Throughout the proceedings, the State will be represented by Atty. Gen. Thomas E. Knight, Jr. Five attorneys will represent the condemned negroes, the defense counsel consisting of George W. Chamlee, Sr., and George W. Chamlee, Jr., of Chattanooga, Tenn., also Joseph R. Brodsky, Irving Schwab and Allen Taub, all of New York. In addition to Mr. Chamlee, Sr., and Mr. Schwab, the names of Elias M. Schwarzbart, Joseph Tauber and Sydney Schreiber, were also signed to briefs in the cases, filed yesterday.

From the briefs, it appears that appeals submitted today will be from action of the circuit judge in denying motions for new trials as well as from the sentences of death imposed—argument before the Supreme Court in support of efforts for new trials being based principally on a "new evidence" plea, that is the claim of such evidence which could not reasonably have been produced at the original trials and that a change of venue should have been granted.

It is understood that Atty. Gen. Knight will oppose any effort on the part of counsel for the negroes, to introduce in their arguments any matters dealing with the character of the young women concerned, a point which it has been indicated the defense would seek to stress.

Advertiser

1-21-32

Montgomery Ala.

The attacks of which the negroes were convicted, occurred March 24, 1931, while the young women were on their way back to Huntsville, from Chattanooga, Tenn., on a freight train.

Indictments were returned by the Jackson Circuit Court against nine negroes, but in the case of one defendant, a juvenile, a mistrial resulted. The others were convicted on April 29, of last year, and have been confined at Kilby Prison, pending trial, since immediately after they were sentenced by Circuit Judge A. E. Hawkins.

The eight condemned negroes are: Charlie Weems, Clarence Norris, Heywood Patterson, Olen Montgomery, Andy Wright, Eugene Williams, Willie Roberson and Ozie Powell.

Since the sentencing of eight convicted defendants, Gov. Miller and the Supreme Court have received hundreds of telegrams and letters concerning the cases, some of these communications being of a threatening character; many demanding the "immediate release" of the negroes.

SPEEDY CONDEMNING OF NEGROES SCORED

N. Y. Times

Counsel for Eight Cites to the Alabama Supreme Court Evidences of 'Pressure.'

1-23-32

SYMPATHIZERS AGAIN HIT

Attorney General Says an Effort Was Made to Influence Him—Decision in a Month Likely.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Jan. 22 (AP)—The propriety of the conduct of the trial of eight Negroes who were convicted and condemned to death at Scottsboro for assaults on two white girls argued in the Alabama Supreme Court today under the watchful eyes of prison guards posted to thwart any attempt at demonstrations.

William F. Feagin, Director of Prisons, assigned the guards to duty in the room without consulting Attorney General Thomas E. Knight Jr., who disclaimed any knowledge that guards were in the crowd.

Mr. Feagin explained later that his action was merely a precautionary move, but it was not necessary, as at no time was there any indication of unrest among the spectators.

The appeals of the Negroes, whose cause various organizations have championed so vigorously as to lead Chief Justice John C. Anderson to denounce "efforts to bulldoze the court," were taken under advisement by the court after arguments were completed today. Usually the court hands down decisions within a month, but there is no limitation in its deliberations.

In the closing argument of the State the Attorney General told the court that outside pressure had been applied to him also. Joseph R. Brodsky, chief counsel for the International Labor Defense, expressed confidence that an "honest decision" would be rendered.

Mr. Knight departed from the record of the case to review yesterday's revelation that the court had been bombarded with letters and resolutions described as "threatening." He said that he had never before seen such conditions as surrounded the case under consideration.

"I never before received a telegram," he said, "while waiting as an officer of the State to perform my duty, as I did yesterday, demanding the 'immediate release' of these eight Negroes."

The Negroes, the oldest of whom is 21, was convicted at Scottsboro last April of attacking two white girls who were "bumming" their way home to Huntsville, from Chattanooga, Tenn., on a freight train.

Mr. Brodsky, in closing the Negroes' case, spent most of his time arguing that since Eugene Williams, one of the Negroes now under death sentence, was only 15 he was not subject to the action of the Jackson County Circuit Court.

Answering a question by Chief Justice Anderson, he said that testimony relative to Williams's age was uncontroverted, and asserted that the lack of action by the trial court on a motion to discharge Williams on account of his age "illustrated the speed and pressure of these trials and that the minds of the men were not normal."

Yesterday Mr. Brodsky charged that "mob terrorism and hysteria" dominated the trials. Mr. Knight denied that mob spirit had controlled the trial court, and said that there was no evidence to controvert the State's case.

PROSECUTOR ASKS DEATH FOR 8 BOYS

Daily Worker

1-23-32

New York N.Y.

'Alabama State Tries to Rule Out Character of Girls

Brodsky Stirs Court

Bar Negroes, Crowd Windows, Doors

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Jan. 22. — The court was jammed today as the Alabama Supreme Court resumed the hearing on the appeals against the Scottsboro lynch verdicts sentencing 8 innocent Negro boys to burn in the electric chair.

Telegrams and resolutions protesting against the lynch verdicts continue to pour in from all parts of the world. Joseph Brodsky, one of the staff of International Labor Defense attorneys defending the boys, opened the second day by showing that 14-year-old Eugene Williams was convicted in a court which did not have jurisdiction over him as a juvenile, thus violating even the laws of the Alabama bosses.

Brodsky told the court that when Judge Hawkins who presided at the "trials" at Scottsboro was told that Eugene was a juvenile he merely said, "All right," and proceeded with the trial. Brodsky pointed out that the Alabama law provides punishment for judges and prison officials who abuse the rights of juveniles and stated that if this law was enforced Judge Hawkins and the warden of Kilby prison would be fined.

Brodsky ended his argument with a summary of the evidence and with a plea for a new trial for the boys.

State Prosecution in Fiery Speech Demands Death For Boys.

Brodsky was followed by Thomas E. Night, state prosecutor, who made a fiery speech demanding the death verdict for the boys, pounding the table, referring to the boys as "niggers" and denying that there is any race prejudice in Alabama. He claimed that there was no mob spirit at Scottsboro during hte trial; that the band which played outside the courthouse was only a demonstration connected with the display of some new model Ford automobiles. He denied that the clamoring of the newspapers and the lynch gangs for death sentences against the boys had any influence on the judge and the jury, and said there was no hostility towards the boys in Scottsboro.

Daily Worker

State Forced To Admit Defense Points.

1-23-32

Knight was forced to admit most of the points made by the defense attorneys, but claimed they were merely legal technicalities. He attempted to make a great point of the betrayal of the boys by Stephen Roddy, N. A. A. C. P. attorney at the Scottsboro "trials," stating that "the defense took "no exception" to the procedure of the Scottsboro court. He also argued that because of the flood of protest telegrams pouring in on the Supreme Court, that court was subjected to the same "mob threat of intimidation" as was the Scottsboro court because of the lynch gang demonstrations outside that court. He argued that the Supreme Court was not influenced by these protests, and in the same way the Scottsboro court was not influenced by the demonstrations of the lynch gangs.

Tries Rule Out Character of Girls.

The State Prosecutor argued that the character of the girls was not permissible as evidence. This, in spite of the fact, that it was on the unsupported testimony of the two girls who are well-known as prosti-

tutes, that the boys were condemned to death on the trumped-up charge of "raping" them.

George W. Chamlee, of the I. L. D. staff of attorneys, spoke in rebuttal, reading a number of affidavits proving that a lynching spirit did prevail at the trials at Scottsboro. The affidavits were so thoroughly convincing that the court was forced to ask many questions.

While Negro workers have been barred from the court, hundreds of them are seen listening to the hearing through the windows and doors.

Va. White Man Makes Scottsboro Protest

1-20-32

Afro-American

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.—Writing on the Scottsboro case in the forum of a local daily newspaper, Bruce Crawford, white Southerner, and editor of Crawford's Weekly at Norton, Va., declares that in nearly all respects, the plight of the Southern colored man is worse than it was before the "so-called emancipation."

Mr. Crawford, a member of the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners, which is cooperating with the International Labor Defense in defending the eight condemned youths at Scottsboro, Ala., bitterly protested the attempt to railroad these boys to the gallows, declaring that they are "victims of a system every whit as vicious as that which the war between the states constitutionally abolished."

The writer concluded by saying: "I cannot expect much of the Supreme Court of Alabama, when on January 21 it hears the appeal of the Scottsboro boys unless a wave of protest goes over the country demanding their release. Alabama should be deluged with such demands."

GUARD ALABAMA COURT

Protect Capitol Offices After Threats in Scottsboro Case.

1-22-32

Memphis Commercial Appeal

MONTGOMERY, Jan. 22.—(UP)—A dozen plain clothes men were ordered on duty at the state capitol today to protect the lives of state officials against threatened violence as the state supreme court closed its hearing of the Scottsboro case.

Thomas E. Knight, Jr., state attorney general, argued today that eight negroes convicted of criminal assault on two girls at Scottsboro, Ala., had received a fair trial and urged their death sentences be sustained.

Defense attorneys pleaded yesterday for a new trial on the grounds that mob hysteria had prevented the negroes receiving a fair trial.

The guards were placed today at the offices of Gov. B. M. Miller and of the members of the supreme court following numerous threats of violence from Communistic and other radical organizations.

The Scottsboro Case

World Tomorrow

February 1932

Vol. XV No. 2

The withdrawal of Arthur Garfield Hays and Clarence Darrow from the Scottsboro defense because of the Communists' refusal to join in a statement promising to make the interests of the condemned Negro boys the chief concern of the defense attorneys and to engage in no controversies between the various groups which are interested in the affair, means that the case will now become merely a tool for Communist strategy. Communist doctrine makes it inevitable that the fate of the convicted boys will be made subservient to the cause of dramatizing the class struggle in America. This does not mean necessarily that the boys will be sacrificed to political necessities but it does mean that their fate will not be the main concern of those who are defending them. Considering the morbid fears of the South that Communism may spread the terror of revolt among Negroes, it is quite obvious that a purely Communistic defense for the boys greatly reduces their chances of acquittal, if indeed it does not seal their doom.

Not only from the standpoint of the fate of these particular defendants but from the perspective of the whole problem of race relations, the turn of events is unfortunate. Nothing will do more to accentuate the vices of Southern whites in their relations to Negroes than the fear that revolutionary doctrine is making headway among them. The days are past when purely liberal policies of conciliation between the races will serve the purpose of bettering relations. Conciliation which leaves essential inequalities, injustices and discriminations unchanged is totally unacceptable to the younger and more vigorous leaders of the Negro race and rightly so. On the other hand, the threat of violent revolt offers little hope for a minority group which suffers from the exactions of a great white majority. Both Negroes and whites who are interested in justice as well as peace and in peace as well as justice must find ways of resisting injustice and of dramatizing the consequences of racial inequality which do not accentuate all the evil passions and prejudices of those whose ignorance and bigotry create the race problem. Among all our major social difficulties, this is one of the greatest. Only a very wise and a very courageous leadership will save us from intolerable eventualities in our race problem. The economic depression alone is enough to aggravate all the evil factors in the situation.

NEW YORK TIMES

JAN 23 1932

SPEEDY CONDEMNING OF NEGROES SCORED

Counsel for Eight Cites to the Alabama Supreme Court Evidence of 'Pressure.'

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Jan. 22 (AP).—The propriety of the conduct of the trial of eight Negroes who were convicted and condemned to death at Scottsboro for assaults on two white girls was argued in the Alabama Supreme Court today under the watchful eyes of prison guards posted to thwart any attempt at demonstrations.

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Lynchings - 1932
Legal Punishment for Rape

Alabama

3747

GILROY, CAL.
EVE. DISPATCH

DEC 21 1932

A MOST CREDITABLE DECISION

The Supreme Court of the United States has handed down a decision in an appealed criminal case that every friend of justice, o fairness, of the good name of this nation wil hail with pleasure.

In Alabama, some young negroes, seve or nine, were arrested charged ~~with having~~ assaulted two white girls. They were stranger and negroes and therefore no one felt interested in their case.

Arrested and thrown into jail, they wer brought out without having had any oppor tunity to consult an attorney. The district at torney announced he was ready to go o with the case. The defendants said nothing not knowing what the legal proceedings were. The court then appointed "all the members of the bar" to defend them, but as not one member was willing to take up the work, the Judge named two or three of the lawyers to take the defense. The lawyers named, without consulting their clients, or seeking any evidence in their favor proceeded at once with the trial and in one day, the jury was selected, the testimony heard, and the men found guilty. They were then condemned to be hung.

Fortunately some one in Alabama had the humanity to appeal the case and the Supreme Court has set aside the conviction, not because of the testimony, because there was no effort to secure any testimony for the negroes; but because they evidently did not have a fair trial and their constitutional rights had been grossly violated.

The decision of the highest court is very notable, from various points of view, but particularly because it is a notice to the rabid negro-haters in the South that this is a law-abiding country, and that a negro has rights under the flag which even a Southern law court must respect.

The decision shows also that the court of last resort can be relied upon to protect the rights of even the humblest citizen, regardless of his race or color. That in itself is a most creditable thing, and in striking contrast with the courts of some other countries, notably some in this hemisphere which are dictated to by the powers that be, and from whom no one expects justice and no one is disappointed in his expectations.

The efforts of a clique influenced by social, religious, or political bigotry to deprive citizens of their rights have met with stern opposition and crushing defeats at the hands of the Supreme Court through all the years of its existence, and though we may not always endorse its opinions, we must give its members credit for cool, deliberate and careful opinions on all matters submitted to them. The decision in the Alabama case is an evi-

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Letters from Our Readers

Workers Should Have Insisted on Right to Make Scottsboro Plea

Bronx, N. Y.

Editor, the Daily Worker,
Dear Comrade:

12-26-32

In the Daily Worker, issue of Nov. 23rd, I read in the Workers Correspondence, how a worker exposed the role of the Socialist Party towards the Soviet Union. A socialist-pacifist and ex-reverand, Tucker C. Smith, delivered a speech in the Bronx Free Fellowship, a church on October 2nd.

The speaker declared that even now it would be better that the Soviet Union would disarm, and also that no armed struggle is justified —neither the American Revolution of 1776 or the Russian Revolution.

Now this correspondent has lots of admiration for the workers in the audience who stood up to disagree with the speaker and ably pointed out how this capitalist system is the cause of all wars, and only with the coming of a Communist society would war and exploitation of man by man be ended—that part is all right.

And now about this worker who came in with credentials from the International Labor Defense and asked Mr. Land the Reverand, for permission to get the floor for a couple of minutes to speak and make a collection for the Scottsboro boys' defense as that day was Oct. 2nd tag-day. Of course Mr. Land refused on same pretense or other, but at the same time he told the audience who this worker was sent by and what he wanted.

There were C. P. members in the audience and many members of other left wing organizations, when this delegate courageously forced his way to the front of the hall and called the attention of the audience that his speech was important, that the lives of nine Negro boys were at stake. This had no effect on Mr. Land, of course not—he is a socialist.

Now what effect did it have on those workers present of our left wing organization. They could stand up and disagree with a pacifist speaker and so ably defend the Soviet Union, where were their tongues? When they had to stand up and demand that the floor be granted to this delegate and when he was forcibly led out to the back of the hall, did any of them even turn around to see whether he would just be thrown out or allowed to keep his seat? And when another member of the ILD who was present in the audience called one of these orators out in the lobby to get a collection, would he and the rest of them help? He answered her, that it is not advisable and we will antagonize the audience. These are the very words of the Socialist Party, when we hold mass demonstration we "antagonize the public."

Now what I want to know is what are you comrades doing in that church—are you helping Mr. Land swell his audience into this church, or giving him financial aid since you have to pay for your admission to get in, or is it both?

If it's to listen to a good lecture—then there are far better and more educational lectures given by a Worker's Club right across the street.

F. K.

Co[illegible]y yours,

Lynchings-1932

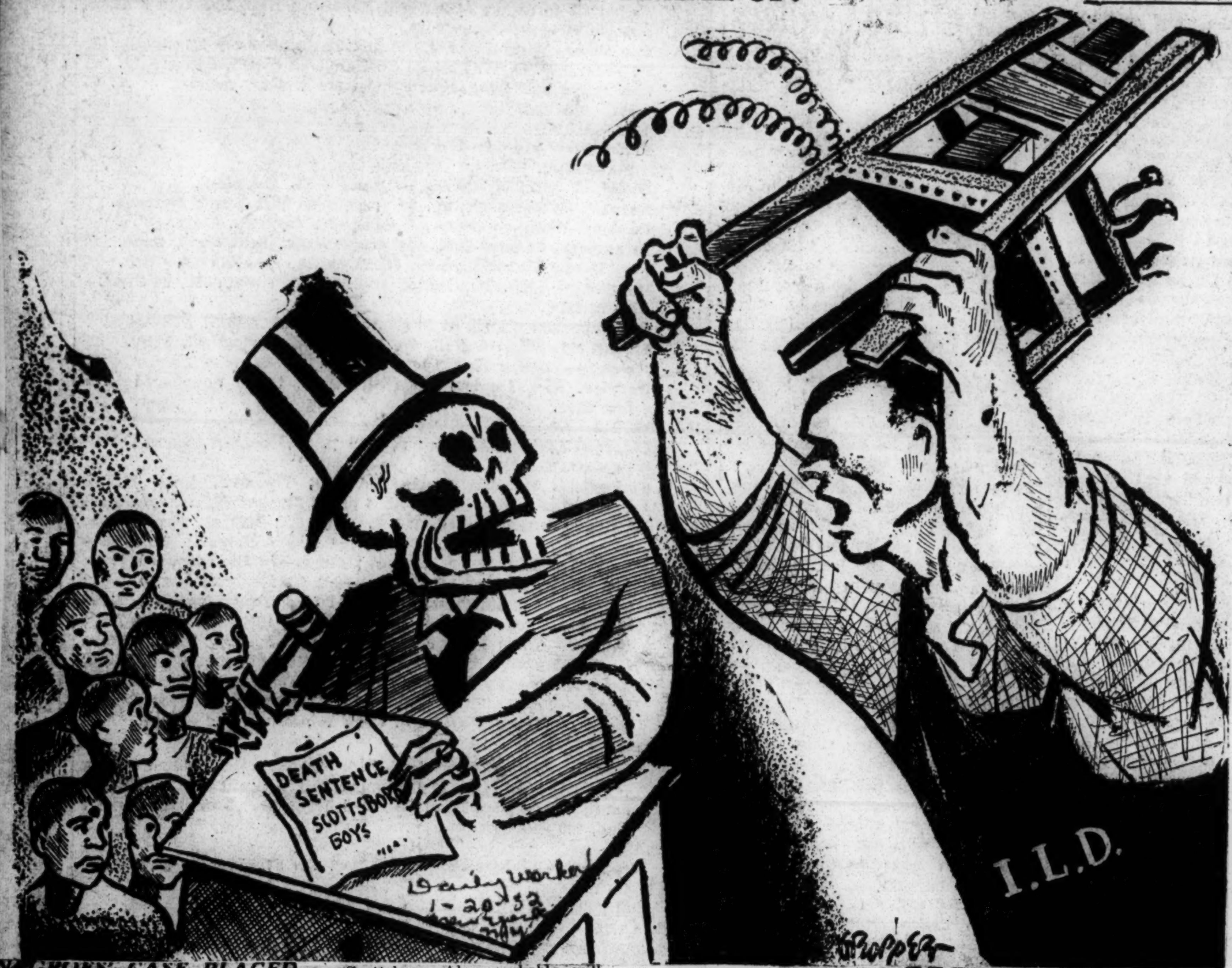
Alabama

3748

Legal Punishment for Rape

WORKERS! SMASH THE SCOTTSBORO FRAME-UP!

—By GROPPER



Daily Worker 1-20-32 New York N.Y.

NEGROES' CASE PLACED IN HIGH COURT'S HANDS

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Jan. 22.—(AP)—Another episode in the Scottsboro case was closed with guards on duty today as the Alabama supreme court took under advisement appeals for new trials for the eight young negroes now in Kilby prison under death sentences.

Constitution

Mingling with the crowds at the doors and windows of the court chamber today were five guards from the state prison, stationed there to preserve order in event there was any demonstration.

1-23-32

Decision in the appeals for new trials for the negroes who were convicted of attacking two white girls aboard a frieght train last March 25, near Scottsboro, Ala., probably will be handed down within a month, but it is within the discretion of the court as to the time it shall deliberate.

Every seat was taken in the small court room and crowds gathered at doors and windows to hear the final argument today during which Thomas E. Knight Jr., attorney general, turned from the record to "denounce" efforts to browbeat the court and himself.

Atlanta Ga.

Turning to threats contained in communications addressed to Governor B. M. Miller, the supreme court and himself, the attorney-general said: "I have never seen, in my six years of appearing before this court, as big a crowd in this court. I have never experienced such an attempt to browbeat the court, nor have I seen before an effort to approach an officer of the court waiting to do his duty."

The defense counsel, Joseph R. Brodsky, of New York, chief national counsel of the International Labor Defense; George W. Chamlee Sr., of Chattanooga, Tenn., and Irving Schwab, of New York, centered their argument for a new trial largely on the contention that "mob hysteria" prevented a fair trial and a change of venue should have been granted.

A contention that the negroes were without adequate legal counsel also was advanced by the defense in arguments that with only eleven days elapsing between the date of arrest and the call to trial sufficient time was not permitted to prepare the cases

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SCOTTSBORO CASE BEFORE ALABAMA SUPREME COURT

Reporter

Attorneys for eight Negro youths, sentenced to death at Scottsboro last April, charged with attacking two Huntsville young white women, are before the Supreme Court of Alabama in Montgomery as we go to press, arguing for a new trial.

1-22-32

The case has stirred national and international interest and the defense has been featured largely within the past few weeks by the clash of counsel seeking to represent the boys.

Birmingham Ala.

It is recalled that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People retained the famous Clarence Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hayes, as well as the firm of Beddow, Fort and Ray in Birmingham, Ala., as attorneys in the case, but they were forced out of the case by the International Labor Defense and its chief counsel, George W. Chamblee, former Attorney General of Tennessee, when Messrs. Darrow and Hayes, Fort, Beddow and Ray refused to join in because of the radical tactics of the I. L. D.

The withdrawal of the N. A. A. C. P. leaves the defendants wholly in charge of the I. L. D., and it is this organization that is pleading the cause for a new trial (Thursday) in Montgomery.

The case grew out of an alleged attack on Ruby Bates and another whit girl while they were hoboing the way, dressed in overalls, last Marc on a train when the nine boys involved and a half dozen white boys ar said to have engaged in a fight, th Negro boys throwing the whites of the train and attacking the girls. I is said that there were several others white and colored, hoboes on the trai who got off before reaching the poin where the nine colored youths were taken into custody.

The case in Scottsboro, a small Alabama town, was featured by the presence of hundreds of white persons and the National Guard of Alabama. Judge Hawkins, before whom the case was tried, had refused a new trial, and it was on this point that appeal was taken to the Supreme Court.

Roy Wright, one of the youths, is in jail in Birmingham awaiting a new trial, as the jury could not agree and a mistrial was entered in his case, the other eight were sentenced to the electric chair and are incarcerated in Kilby Prison, near Montgomery.

Workers Force City Council to Send Protest to Ala. Governor

Daily Worker 1-25-32

MONTGOMERY,, Ala., Jan. 24.—Arguments were completed Friday on the hearing before the Alabama Supreme Court of the appeal against the Scottsboro lynch verdicts sentencing 8 innocent Negro boys to burn in the electric chair. The boys were defended by the International Labor Defense attorneys, Joseph Brodsky, George Chamles, Irving Schwab, Allan Taub and Schwartzhart.

New York N.Y.

The defense attorneys proved that the boys were sentenced to death at a trial held in a tense lynching atmosphere, with lynch gangs surrounding the court. The State prosecutor attempts to deny the fact, generally reported eevn in the capitalist press at the time of the original "trials." In a fiery speech he demanded death for the 8 boys.

The court has taken the appeal "under advisement." Usually the court hands down decisions within a month, but there is no limitation to the time it may take to make public its defense.

In this case it is likely to take several months in the hope that the working-class will relax its vigilance and that the mass protests against these lynch verdicts will die down.

The white and Negro workers in the united front movement to save and free the boys and to smash the lynch terror must guard against such manouvering on the part of the Alabama Supreme Court of the ruling class. The mass fight to save and free the boys must be continued and must be intensified.

* * *

DETROIT, Jan. 24.—Mass pressure forced the Hamtramck City Council to agree to send a telegram to the governor of Alabama protesting against the Scottsboro lynch verdicts. The pressure was exerted by a demonstration of 1,500 Negro and white workers who marched through the streets with red torches on Jan. 19 to the City Hall, where the City Council was in session.

Daily Worker

The demonstrators elected a committee of three, George Kristalsky, Communist PaPrty candidate for Mayor; Cass Baily, a Negro worker candidate of the Communist Party for Councilman, and Yaronski, Communist candidate for councilman. The Committee presented the following telegram to the Council demanding that the Council adopt it and send it to the governor of Ala-

1-23-32

Council of Hamtramck,
n. 19, protests attempt
nch nine innocent working-class Negro boys in Scottsboro, Alabama, on framed-up charge of 'rape.' We denounce effort of white ruling class of the South to legally lynch these boys. We demand the immediate and unconditional release of the nine Negro boys."

New York N.Y.

Kristalsky in presenting the telegram spoke on the Scottsboro case and denounced the discrimination against and segregation of Negro workers in the city of Hamtramck, exposing discrimination against Negro workers by the Hamtramck welfare department and demanded unconditional equal rights for Negro and foreign-born workers.

Councilman Dibble, who has broken every promise made to the Negro workers who helped to elect him, several times interrupted the Communist candidate with the statement that he "don't like the statement made by the Communist candiate." Dibble declared if he was chairman, he would not have allowed Kristalsky to speak in behalf of the Negro masses.

The |Council chamber was packed with workers, while 1,500 others continued their meeting outside, cheering for the Communist candidates. The council hearing the demonstration on the outside was shivering in its boots.

fter the speech of the Communist candidates, a copy of the telegram was given to the City Clerk and the Committee demanded acceptances of this telegram; motion was made by a councilman to refer this telegram to city attorney authorizing him to send it to Governor B. M. Miller of Alabama and the State Supreme Court "with necessary changes."

Feb. 4th must be a continuaiton of our struggle for the freedom of Scottsboro boys, Tom Mooney, Billings, Imperial Valley workers, the Kentucky miners and all other political prisoners. Feb. 4 must be a day of struggle against starvation, against discrimination of Negroes, against eviction and for unemployment insurance.

All out to the Demonstration Feb. 4 at Grand Circus Park, Detroit, Michigan parade will start from Ferry Hall a.m. to Grand Circus Park.

Negro Partizans 'Dictate' Course To High Court

Advertiser 1-22-32

Chief Justice Discloses Threats As Plea For Scottsboro 8 Begins Appeal Unfinished

Montgomery Ala.

Trial Court Intimidated Defense Insists; Hits At Girls' Testimony

Two kinds of intimidation engaged attention of the Alabama Supreme Court yesterday as the hearing on appeal of the eight negroes sentenced to death for attacking two white women last March 25 opened before an intent audience.

Attorneys for the negroes assigned from the legal staff of the International Labor Defense, eloquently denounced the kind of intimidation which they said was exerted upon the judge, jury, and witnesses which convicted their clients. They expressed polite regret of the threatening letters and telegrams, which, they were informed, had been sent to members of the Supreme Court by their clients' sympathizers in various sections of the country.

Defense counsel had not completed its arguments when Chief Justice John C. Anderson adjourned court until 10 a.m. today. It is barely possible that the hearing will be completed today.

The hearing opened on a stern declaration by the Chief Justice:

"For the past week this court has been bombarded with letters, resolutions and telegrams, revolutionary in nature and designed to bulldoze this court. I want to say that if the authors of these messages were in the jurisdiction of this court they would be cited for contempt.

"A great portion of my mature life has been spent on the bench and this is the first time any effort has been made to influence the court's decision.

No Influence On Court

"I will say that none of these messages will have any more effect on this court than a drop of water on the back of a duck. The case will stand on its merit. If reversible error is shown the case will be remanded. If not the verdict will be affirmed. The appellants may proceed."

Thereupon George W. Chamlee, the Chattanooga attorney who has been an active worker in the negroes' behalf and who was in charge of the defense, disavowed connection with any attempt to influence the court and voiced regret that any such effort was made.

Nothing more was said of the campaign of intimidation which has been waged ever since the trial of the negroes, in which the lives of the Governor and the Chief Justice have been threatened, but while the hearing was in progress, Chief Justice Anderson receipted for a telegram from a communistic organization in Detroit demanding the immediate release of the eight defendants. During the day Atty. Gen. Thomas E. Knight received a similar message.

Message To Governor

Gov. Miller received a large placard, red in color and bearing the words:

"We demand the unconditional freedom of our eight brother workers, the Scottsboro boys."

It was signed, "The Communist local of Youngstown, Ohio."

The arguments of the three defense attorneys heard during the day rang with denunciation of the mob spirit they said reigned through the trial and when adjournment was taken Joseph R. Brodsky, poised and eloquent chief counsel of the International Labor Defense, was still lamenting the scene presented by Scottsboro during the trial.

Advertiser

Approximately 30 minutes remained for defense arguments when court recessed at 1 p.m., to 10 a.m., today, before Thomas E. Knight, Jr., attorney general presents the State's case.

1-22-32

Appellants' Argument

In making the arguments, attorneys for the negroes who were sentenced to death last April 9, for an attack on two young Huntsville girls aboard a freight train March 25, 1931, divided the case into three divisions.

Montgomery Ala.

Chamlee opening the arguments discussed the lack of time defense counsel had in which to prepare the case and the failure of the presiding judge, A. E. Hawkins, to grant a change of venue.

Irving Schwab, of New York, second defense attorney devoted his arguments largely to the evidence and the affidavits attacking the character of the two girls, Victoria Price and Ruby Bates, which were submitted to the court of original jurisdiction for a new trial.

Brodsky based his arguments on three points, that "mob terrorism" prevented a fair trial; that the defendants were denied due process of law because negroes were not included in the Grand and petit juries; and that Eugene Williams, one of the defendants, was under 15 years of age.

Speedy trials are necessary deterrents of crime, Brodsky said, as he took up his argument, but he declared it was over emphasized in these trials pointing out that 11 days after the arrest the negroes were brought to trial.

"In 72 hours," he said, "four trials had been held and death sentences passed upon these eight young negroes."

He commented on Stephen Roddy, of Chattanooga, who acted as chief of defense counsel in the trials saying when the cases were called that he "was not prepared" for trial.

Reviewing the precautions taken by officers to maintain order during the trials, Brodsky said from "5,000 to 10,000 people" crowded the town and their presence brought pressure on the juries in the four trials.

"Mob terrorism swayed that court, that jury and defense counsel," he said, pointing out that 107 national guardsmen were on duty to preserve order and that "eight machine guns were mounted."

Negroes For Jury Duty

Brodsky paid tribute to Justice Holmes of the United States Supreme Court who retired a few days ago and read from an opinion he had written holding that domination of a trial by a mob was sufficient ground for reversal.

In his contention that the defendants were "deprived of due process of law," through no negroes having been summoned for jury duty, Brodsky read a portion of the 14th amendment to the United States Constitution.

It was at this point that Chief Justice Anderson interrupted him to announce that court was recessed.

Chamblee reviewed the history of the case and said that it was several hours after the arrest at Paint Rock, where the negroes were taken from the freight train on which they were accused of attacking the girls, until any charge was made against them.

He read headlines and excerpts from a news story appearing in The Jackson County Sentinel, published at Scottsboro, which he charged inflamed the citizens of the community.

One of these was published a few days after the arrests and the other a few days prior to the trials.

Chamlee said an effort was made to lynch the negroes and that Judge A. E Hawkins, before whom they were tried erred in denying a motion for a change of venue.

While Heywood Patterson was on trial Chamlee said the proceeding was interrupted to permit a jury that heard the case against Charlie Weems and Clarence Norris to report.

"Hot Times In Old Town"

Chamlee said the verdict of death was greeted by cheering in the courtroom and was taken up by people on the streets.

"A band from a hosiery mill paraded the streets about the courthouse," Chamlee said, "playing such tunes as 'Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here,' and 'There'll Be a Hot Time In the Old Town Tonight.'"

This he said influenced subsequent juries, adding that four jurors in the trial at which five of the defendants were convicted "heard and saw this demonstration."

He charged that the negroes were prevented from conferring with counsel and that in fear of their lives "friends, parents and relatives could not go to them."

Chamlee pointed out that in none of the cases did defense attorneys make a plea before a jury.

Schwab directed his argument to the evidence offered by the State and contended that of the seven white boys who were held as material witnesses, only one was called as a witness and that in only one trial.

Six of the boys were credited with having brought about the arrests, claiming they were thrown from the freight train near Sevenson after a fight with the negroes, and notified the station agent.

The character of the two complaining witnesses also was attacked by Schwab, who called attention to several affidavits presented in the motion for a new trial before the court of original jurisdiction.

Referring to the testimony of Mrs. Price, Schwab said, "She performed the marvelous feat of remembering each of the defendants," and contended that her testimony was the "precision of fabrication."

"There is a total absence of corroboration," he said, and contended that there were contradictions after contradictions and inconsistencies after inconsistencies in the testimony.

Other lawyers present at the session yesterday, noted particularly the special courtesy extended counsel for the defense in permitting all three to address the court. It is the rule of the Supreme Court that only two attorneys may argue for either side of a case coming before that tribunal. When defense counsel advised the court that there were three of them present and all would like to be heard the Supreme Court suspended this rule yesterday, and allowed all three attorney to submit arguments.

Arkansas.

3728

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment for Rape.

-6

NEGRO TO DIE TODAY FOR ATTACK ON GIRL

Commercial Appeal

Prisoner is Grateful for Last Thanksgiving Dinner

11-25-32

Memphis, Tenn.

LITTLE ROCK, Nov. 24.—(AP)—Desiring only a package of cigarets, Freeling Daniels, 34-year-old Miller County negro, said tonight that he was ready to go to his death in the electric chair at the penitentiary here at 7 a.m. tomorrow.

Daniels was sentenced to be electrocuted for a criminal attack upon a 13-year-old girl at Texarkana.

When asked what he wanted for supper tonight, Daniels told Warden S. L. Todhunter: "Captain, I've already had a swell Thanksgiving dinner and I've got religion what is religion so I don't see any use of ordering anything special for tonight. But, I would like a package of cigarets."

It is customary at the prison for a condemned prisoner to have what he desires for his last meal. Warden Todhunter furnished the cigarets, and left the condemned man in his narrow death cell, puffing away and gazing into the haze of smoke.

It will be the second execution for the year, and the second execution since the electric chair was substituted for the noose, for a statutory crime.

NEGRO GOES TO DEATH FOR ATTACK ON GIRL

Commercial Appeal

Freeling Daniels, 34, Electrocuted at Little Rock.

11-26-32

LITTLE ROCK, Nov. 25.—(AP)—Freeling Daniels, 34-year-old Miller County negro went to his death in the electric chair at the state penitentiary here today for criminally assaulting a 13-year-old girl at Texarkana.

Memphis, Tenn.

Four times the current was sent through his body before the prison physician pronounced him dead.

After being strapped in the chair Warden S. L. Todhunter asked him if he was guilty.

"Yes, in a way," Daniels replied.

Sheriff R. W. Turquette of Texarkana was among several witnesses to the electrocution.

Daniels was convicted last June. National Guardsmen were present to keep order, and this circumstance led to his appeal to the supreme court on the grounds that he could not obtain a fair trial because of prejudice. The supreme court affirmed the sen-

Lynchings-1932

Arizona

3729

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Memphis Commercial Appeal 3/23/32

The White Man's Law.

Mac Seymour violated the white man's law and he must submit to the white man's punishment. The violator of civilization's code is a member of the Apache tribe of Indians, and has been a range rider. In earlier days his tribe was a wild and savage group with a deadly enmity towards the white man. The white man himself has been anything else than kind, but association of the races has removed the urge to death dealing.

The race of which Seymour is a member has not been kindly to its female members. They have been the drudges and slaves. Seymour inherited his racial traditions. So, when one of the white man's daughters came into the tribe and associated with the tribesmen on terms of equality, Seymour did not respect her education and culture. He was guilty of the atrocious crime of violating this girl and then taking her life.

In defense of the crime it was pleaded that the educated daughter of the white man plied the primitive son of the red man with liquor. But, even if this be true, it neither excused nor palliated the double crime. Seymour was tried and convicted. The jury debated for over four hours the point of whether his punishment should be death or imprisonment for life and finally decided upon the latter.

While many persons will condemn this bit of mercy as being unjustified, there are some who will see elements of justice therein. Was the primitive red man fully appreciative of the nature and quality of his action? Did his antecedents, his traditions and his training impose upon him full responsibility as measured by the white man's standard?

Rightly has the white man's law set up its inhibitions against and penalties for the violation of womankind and the taking of human life. And rightly might it have demanded even from another race of different ideas and customs the payment in full for such crimes. But the white man's law chose the prevention of similar crimes by the criminal to vindictive punishment against that criminal. Was it right or was it wrong?

Memphis, Tenn. Comm'cial Appeal
Wednesday, March 23, 1932

The White Man's Law.

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Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Georgia

3749

Free Man Held as Rapist

Chicago Defender

Chicago Ill

12-24-32

MACON, Ga., Dec. 23.—The ruling of the United States supreme court in the Scottsboro case that a defendant is entitled to an orderly trial and proper defense will result in the freeing of John Downer, sentenced to death in Elberton superior court on a charge of attacking a young white woman.

Federal Judge Bascom S. Deaver served notice last week that he would sign an order discharging Downer, having ruled in the habeas corpus proceedings that the trial was "without due process of law and in violation of the federal constitution."

Downer's conviction came after the jury had been out just six minutes on May 26, 1931, his indictment having occurred on the night of May 17. Downer was arrested May 19, after four other Race men had been held, charged with the crime.

A mob numbering over 2,000 broke into the Elberton county jail after Governor L. G. Hardman had dispatched 200 troops on a special train to save the prisoner. Disguised as a guardsman, Downer was spirited to Atlanta for safekeeping. Returned a week later for trial, it required the state militia to patrol the court house grounds, as well as the building itself, to keep the gathered mob from taking the prisoner. In the mob atmosphere the trial was hastily conducted. Before the jury was missed from the crowded court room it had reached a decision, and Downer was sentenced to be electrocuted on June 15, less than a month from the time of the young woman's complaint.

A. T. Walden, Race attorney of Atlanta; W. A. Sutherland, Granger Hansell, and Jerome Jones Jr., white lawyers, formed Downer's counsel with the addition of O. A. Park and Harry S. Strozier, both white, o Macon.

At the instigation of Solicitor-General A. S. Skelton of the Elberton superior court, another warrant for the rearrest of Downer has been issued, and the sheriff of Bibb county plans to take Downer into custody as soon as he is discharged by Judge Deaver.

In his opinion, announcing that he would discharge Downer, the federal judge said: "There is more involved in this case than the life of a lowly citizen. The people of this country have declared that no person shall be deprived of a life, liberty or property without the due process of law and the loyal, law-abiding citizens expect that provision to stand as a protection to each one of them. If it may be ignored in one case, it may be ignored in any other case; and, when it becomes ineffective through disregard or evasion, one of the most important rights of the peopl is destroyed."

The young white woman, 20 years old, whose testimony brought about Downer's conviction, told the police she and her boy friend were in an automobile parked on a lonely road while her companion was lighting a cigaret. Within the week before the trial, after so much gossip had spread, the two were married, and both identified the accused, who told Judge John T. Moseley when being sentenced: "Judge, before God, I didn't do it."

Elberton, Ga., Star

Friday, December 16. 1932

THE DOWNER CASE

The law-abiding citizens of Elbert county have shown commendable forbearance during the eighteen months that John Downer, convicted negro rapist, has been held in Bibb county jail at their expense. These citizens, at a time that tried the mettle of men, and some of them at the risk of reputation and even life itself, helped to save the life of John Downer, as well as the lives of innocent negroes, who were suspected of having committed the crime for which he was convicted This was not at the time of the trial in Elbert superior court, but before the trial, and in order that there might be a trial. In our opinion such people, in their effort to maintain law and order, ought to have the co-operation of the courts of the country, at least to the extent o acquitting the innocent or convicting the guilty within a reasonable length of time and by giving more weight to the question o guilt and innocence than to abstract questions raised by buttinskys at home and abroad.

Lynchings-1932
6
Legal Punishment for Rape

Georgia
6

3750

3750

NEGRO WAIVES COURT RIGHTS

Telegraph

Jackson Gets 20-Year Term For Attempted Assault

1-24-32

MOULTRIE, Ga., Jan. 19.—His attorney waiving his right to appear in court, a plea of guilty was entered today for Willia Jackson, Negro, under indictment on a charge of attempting to criminally attack a woman member of the Berlin school faculty, was sentenced by Judge W. E. Thomas to 20 years in the penitentiary. This was the maximum penalty.

Macon

Informed that he was scheduled to go on trial today Jackson said he preferred to remain in jail while his plea of guilty was entered and sentence imposed. His written waiver was made a part of the court record.

DOWNER PETITION BEING CONSIDERED

Telegraph

Judge Takes Plea Under Advisement, With No Decision Seen For Some Time

7-7-32

The petition of a Georgia Negro for a writ of habeas corpus, brought as a result of his trial and conviction in Elbert county a year ago on charges of criminal assault, was taken under advisement by Federal Judge Bascom S. Deaver here Wednesday afternoon.

Macon

Counsel submitted the case without argument after introducing evidence for two days. The court was requested, however, to withhold decision until the lawyers may obtain a stenographic report of the evidence and submit briefs.

It may be several weeks, therefore, before the case is decided.

Meanwhile, John Downer, the Negro, was returned to the Bibb county jail.

The case has attracted wide attention. It is considered a parallel case to Leo Frank's effort to obtain federal court intervention in his case nearly 20 years ago.

No Such Plea Ever Granted

Counsel for Frank filed his petition for writ of habeas corpus, and it was dismissed just as Judge Deaver dismissed the Downer petition in June, 1931.

Telegraph

The lower court in both instances, however, granted an order of probable cause and appeals were taken to the higher courts. The lower court in the Frank case was sustained when justices of the United States Supreme court were divided on the question.

7-7-32

Judge Deaver was reversed in the Downer case by the circuit court of appeals, that body directing that a hearing be had on the petition. The circuit court held that the writ should be granted if the allegations in the petition could be proved.

A case is not on record in which such a petition has been granted by a federal court in the United States, attorneys said.

Powers Indefinite

Just what Judge Deaver's powers are in the matter are not definitely known. Attorneys for Downer charge that the trial in Elbert county was "without due process of law" and ask that it be declared void. There is no prayer for the Negro's release, and, should Judge Deaver grant the writ, he probably will remand the case to Elbert county for another trial.

Such an order, attorneys said, would have the effect of declaring there never was a trial in the state court. They expressed belief that there would be no grounds for a plea of former jeopardy.

The young white woman is alleged to have been assaulted in Elbert county on the night of May 17, 1931. Next morning, four Negroes were arrested as suspects.

Immediately the streets of Elberton became filled with an angry mob. Downer was not among the first four arrested.

Mob Grew Fast

Sheriff S. B. Seymour, of Elbert county, rushed the four to the Clarke county jail in Athens for protection. He had called in other officers to assist him in the hunt for the attacker, and among them were Sheriff George M. Walton, of Wilkes county, and Sheriff W. J. Hammond, of Lincoln county. The young victim was a native of Lincoln county and had been a resident there for a number of years.

While, Sheriff Seymour was in Athens, Sheriffs Hammond and Walton had arrested two other suspects—one of them Downer—and they were placed in the Elbert county jail.

By 5 o'clock in the afternoon of that day, May 18, it was necessary for the two Elberton units of the state militia to be called into service.

The mob increased in numbers and shortly before dark. Col. G. P. O'Keefe, commanding the 122nd infantry of the Georgia militia, and Capt. Marion Williamson, both of Atlanta, had arrived in Elberton under orders from the state adjutant general.

As the night wore on other units were sent to Elbert county to protect the two Negroes. The mob was making an effort, it was said, to storm the jail.

Dynamiting Threatened

Colonel O'Keefe said on the witness stand here that he had received threats that the jail would be dynamited and was urged to evacuate the premises. He refused, he said.

There was a discharge of dynamite which was said to have been a warning signal. There was no more, however.

Before the night was over there had been machine gun fire. One member of the mob had been wounded as he undertook to enter the jail cell. Tear gas bombs had been thrown in the crowd and Rev. Henry T. Brookshire, Baptist minister, had been called in to restore order, if possible.

Rev. Mr. Brookshire said here he appealed to the mob, conveyed to them the promise of an early trial if they would let the law take its course.

It was said that the minister's appeal was a slight restoration of quiet, but militiamen found it necessary at midnight to dress the prisoners in guard uniforms and spirit them away to Atlanta.

Sheriff Seymour testified here Wednesday that his automobile taking the four suspects to Athens, had been fired upon by members of the mob.

W. H. Irwin, chief of police of Elberton, testified he had taken a hammer from the father of the victim that day with which he (the father) had made an effort to batter the lock on the prisoners' jail cell.

Trial Follows Soon

The grand jury was called to convene in a special session of court on the following Monday, May 25. The trial of any person named in the indictment was to be held the next day. Downer was indicted.

The mob quieted on the morning of May 19, but citizens of Elbert county immediately became concerned with the necessity of having state militia present at the trial.

Confereneces were held. Most of them felt, it was revealed at the hearing, that the militia must be present. The question of a change of venue was discussed.

Military officials urged a change of venue, they said. Some of the citizens of Elberton, however, thought it would not be necessary. There was a conference with Gov. L. G. Hardman.

Judge B. T. Moseley, of the northern circuit, was present with others for the governor's conference, but refused to commit himself on the matter of a change of venue.

Courtroom Made "Fortress"

"I will take that up at the proper time," he was quoted as having said. Rumors had been circulated about the city that the state militia would arrive in Elberton by automobile about 8 o'clock on the day of the trial. The court was to convene at 9 o'clock.

Instead of arriving by automobile at 8 o'clock, however, 150 militiamen with 50 officers arrived by special train at daybreak, and by the time of their expected arrival had turned the courtroom into what counsel for Downer called a fortress.

Machine guns had been placed at strategic points in the courtroom. Guardsmen had been placed at all entrances. Some 25 militiamen guarded the courtroom.

The courthouse had been surrounded with troops. Troops had been placed on top of the courthouse, some said troops were on top of the hotel across the street.

Colonel O'Keefe was in complete command of the situation. The court had directed that he take complete charge.

Warning Disregarded

He was there, though he said he had been warned several days before not to return to Elberton. He said he was advised by members of the Elberton Guard that the mob was intent on getting him and the Negro.

That was the setting for the trial of John Downer—the setting which his counsel claim made it impossible for him to have received a fair trial.

When court convened, Colonel O'Keefe said he stationed a guard at the door and had every spectator searched as he came into the courtroom. Spectators were allowed to enter until the courtroom was filled.

The evidence presented before Judge Deaver here was to the effect that the three attornys who represented the Negro at the trial were not notified of their appointment by the court until Monday. One of them, H. D. Payne, was notified at 7 o'clock before the trial was to begin at 9 o'clock.

Judge Considerate

Charles Empry Smith, another member of defense counsel, said on the witness stand here that he had been appointed Monday, but that he conferred with his client and with other counsel in the case "not more than two hours' 'on the morning of the trial.

He said, however, that Judge Moseley gave them every consideration in the short preparation of their case. He said Judge Moseley recessed court until about 11 o'clock in order to summon defense witnesses.

They filed no motions. They did not ask a change of venue, Mr. Smith said, because counsel did not consider there was evidence to support it. The situation seemed to have calmed and the mob spirit was somewhat discouraged. There was no semblance of any disturbance and prominent citizens advised counsel, Mr. Smith said, that the tiral could be fair and impartial.

The Negro was convicted after a day's session. He was sentenced to die on June 15. The jury deliberated five or 10 minutes.

Mr. Smith said Judge Moseley held the special term open until noon the next day to give them time to file, should they desire, a motion for new trial. Counsel saw no ground for such a motion, he said, and figured that its only purpose would be to delay execution of the sentence.

Meanwhile, state militia had placed Downer, the convicted Negro, on board their special train and he was en route to Atlanta.

Attorneys Intervene

Macon and Atlanta attorneys became interested in the case. Orville A. Park, in an address before the Macon Kiwanis club, termed the trial a "judicial lynching."

There had been some suggestion that the Negro might not be guilty.

Two days before execution of the state's sentence, the attorneys—Park and Strozier, of Macon; W. A. Sutherland, Jerome Jones and A. T. Walden, the last named a Negro attorney—presented the petition for writ of habeas corpus to Judge Deaver. He refused it, but signed an order of probable cause which stayed the execution.

Downer was brought to the Bibb county jail and since that time has been confined here. That was in June, 1931.

More than a score of witnesses testified here in the hearing. The state was represented by John I. Kelley and T. R. Gress, assistant attorneys general of the state; Solicitor A. S. Skelton, of the northern circuit; Paul Brown and Clark Edwards, special prosecuting counsel.

No Misconduct at Trial

There was testimony that the trial could not have been held in Elberton without the protection of, the militia. There was testimony that the mob spirit had subsided to such an extent that the trial could have been held in an orderly way.

Influential citizens of Elberton, including court officials, said the trial was as orderly as any trial could possibly have been. Military officers, court officials, and citizens testified there was no misconduct on the part of anyone on the day of the trial.

G. T. Christian, editor of the Elberton Star, said only 75 or 100 took part in the demonstration the week before.

Many witnesses said the crowd at the courthouse on the day of the trial were only curiosity seekers, while counsel for Downer at the hearing charged that quiet had to be maintained because of the presence of the militia.

It was said that those who took part in the demonstration were "liquored up" and were residents, largely, of Lincoln county. Quiet was restored, witnesses said, when whisky gave out.

Orville Park Blamed

Most of the state's witnesses said they favored the militia guard at the trial just as a matter of precaution.

Some of them said the trial could have been conducted without the militia. Rev. W. T. Hunnicutt, Methodist minister, said that if the verdict had been one of acquittal there would not have been a chance for the Negro.

Z. W. Copeland, superintendent of the Sunday school in Elberton and prominent business man there, charged that Mr. Park was responsible for the whole trouble.

He said Mr. Park's charge that the trial was a "judicial lynching" was without foundation, made in ignorance of the facts. Asked by Mr. Park if he still thought the attorney was responsible, Mr. Copeland said he did.

Captain Williamson and Rev. Mr. Hunnicutt expressed some doubt of the Negro's guilt of the crime.

While some of the witnesses said attorneys for the defense at the Elberton trial were just as vigorous as they could possibly have been. Captain Williamson and Rev. Mr. Hunnicutt said they should have been more diligent in their cross-examination of state's witnesses and more eager to search for evidence in the Negro's favor.

Clothing Not Exhibited

Rev. Mr. Hunnicutt said defense counsel, he thought, made a mistake when they failed to have the clothing of the young woman and the young man who was her companion on the night of May 17 brought into court.

The Negro had been accused of assaulting the young woman on a lonely road while he held a pistol on the young man, forcing him to sit in the automobile. The young couple had been out riding, it was shown.

With all the evidence before him, Judge Deaver will decide whether the trial was with or without "due process of law."

Nearly every witness who took the stand here said the convicting jury was composed of the highest type of men in the county and that they returned a verdict based on the evidence.

Mr. Smith of defense counsel said there could have been no other verdict; that the Negro's statement was the most damaging evidence against him. The Negro is said to have admitted that tracks around the scene of the attack were his own, but said he lent his shoes to another Negro that night.

He said the other Negro was to have robbed, but that he received a report from him that he "ravished instead of robbed."

TWO NEGROES TO DIE FOR ATTACKING WOMAN

10-6-32

MACON, Ga., Oct. 5.—(AP)—Two negroes have been sentenced to electrocution October 28 for entering the bedroom of a Webster county man, slugging him into unconsciousness and attacking his wife.

Officers said both the accused, Charlie Green and Paschal Baker, confessed. They were brought here from Webster county yesterday for safekeeping after a trial in Preston, Ga. Officers said the crime was committed near Preston August 2, but the arrest and investigation were made secretly.

DOOMED NEGROES DENY THEIR GUILT

Telegraph

Webster County Man Says He 'Confessed' When Threatened With Death

10-11-32

Charlie Green, Jr., and Paschal Baker, Webster county Negroes, said here Monday they were not guilty of the crime for which they were sentenced to die in the electric chair Oct. 28.

Macon, Ga.

Officers of Sumter county brought them to the Bibb county jail, last Tuesday, having hurried them out of Webster county following a short trial on charges of assaulting a white woman Aug. 12.

The officers said both Negroes had confessed the crime and it was upon those confessions they were sentenced to death.

"Boss, I's not guilty," Green said Monday to a newspaperman. "If I must go to the chair, I'll go denying it, 'cause I ain't guilty. I'll never go to the chair with a lie on my lips."

Threat Is Claimed

Green said he never had confessed the crime. He said he denied it on the stand last Tuesday.

"They convicted me on Baker's statement," he said.

Baker said he confessed but was forced to do it through threat of death. He said the threat was made while he was in jail in Ellaville.

"I didn't know what I was saying, I was so scared," Baker said.

Officers who brought them here said they had confessed that they entered the home of a couple near Preston at midnight, Aug. 12, slugged them as they slept, attacked the woman and fled.

The officers said Green and Baker told them a white man promised them $25 to kill the couple.

Attorneys appointed to defend them did not file a motion for new trial.

ST. LOUIS, MO.
STAR

OCT 12 1932

DOES "DUE PROCESS" MEAN JUSTICE?

If the decision of the United States Supreme Court in the famous Frank case from Georgia is followed, there will be no federal interference with the death sentence imposed by Alabama courts on seven Negroes convicted of attacking two white girls. The court then refused to hold that an unfair trial in an atmosphere of passion was a denial of the "due process" of law to which all citizens are declared entitled.

The Scottsboro trial was manifestly unfair and prejudiced. The two girls had been traveling with some white men in a box car, on a train carrying a large number of Negroes. A fight developed in which the white men were driven off the train, and some Negroes took their places in the box car. As the train approached a city, all of the Negroes on the train left it except seven boys. Common sense supports their statement that they knew nothing of the affair, for the guilty ones would be the most certain to flee, but they were "identified" and convicted in the heat of community passion. This passion was intensified by the fact that Communist organizers made an issue of the case, using it to aid their propaganda among southern Negroes.

The supreme court can be depended on to recognize the unfairness of the legal process by which these boys were convicted, but it has yet to establish that "due process of law" means more than a mere following of legal forms.

WEBSTER NEGROES AWAIT EXECUTION

Times

Charlie Green and Paschal Baker Go to Chair Friday; Groves in Other Death Cell

10-27-32

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga., Oct. 24.—Charlie Green and Paschal Baker, Webster county Negroes, are in the death cell at the state prison farm where they were placed Tuesday to wait until Friday when they will be electrocuted for criminal assault.

Macon Ga.

The Negroes continue to maintain their innocence and declare they were forced into confessions with a threat of death. Appeals have been made to the governor and the Negroes hope to receive a commutation.

Joe Groves in Cell

In the adjoining sell to the Negroes is Joe Groves, of Thomasville, who has been held at the farm since his death sentence was respited by the governor.

The execution Friday will be the third double electrocution this year. In November there are six scheduled electrocutions and on next Friday, Nov. 4, three of these will take place.

Pleas Are Considered

ATLANTA, Oct. 26 (AP)—The state prison commission Wednesday took under advisement clemency pleas of William and Fred Hulsey, of Polk county, and Tom King, Negro, of Butts county, each seeking commutation of death sentences.

The commission refused to recommend a respite for Charley Green and Paschal Baker, Webster county Negroes, sentenced to die for assault on a white woman.

Attorneys for the Hulseys presented their plea and placed before members of the commission petitions signed by a number of persons from widely scattered sections of the state. Solicitor General S. W. Ragsdale, of Dallas, opposed the plea.

The Hulseys were convicted on murder charges following the death of W. E. Jones. They also are alleged to have slain Lige Harper and W. E. McCullough.

King's attorneys filed his plea which was based on "newly discovered evidence." Solicitor General Frank Willingham, of the Flint circuit, and Charles Remond, former Butts county representative, opposed the plea. King has been in Fulton tower seven years. He has been tried five times and four times the verdict has been set aside by the supreme court. He was convicted of killing James E. McNair, Butts county officer.

TWO NEGROES DIE IN ELECTRIC CHAIR

Telegraph

Double Execution Held For Men Convicted of Attacking Webster County Woman

10-29-32

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga., Oct. 28 (AP)—Two Negroes were electrocuted at the state prison farm Friday for attacking a white woman in Webster county.

Macon Ga.

The men, Charlie Green and Paschal Baker, both denied the crime just before they died, although officers at the time of the trial said they had confessed.

They were convicted at Preston, Ga., Oct. 4. Officers charged the entered the bedroom of the woman and her husband, Aug. 2, slugged the man into unconsciousness, and attacked the wife.

Secret Investigation

The investigation of the case and the arrest of the Negroes were carried out secretly. Immediately after the trial the Negroes were taken to jail in Macon for safekeeping.

The double execution, the second time this year that two men had been put to death at the prison farm, was carried out in 26 minutes.

Green was strapped in the electric chair at 10:09 a.m. and was pronounced dead at 10:17 after three shocks. Baker went to the chair at 10:25 and after two shocks was pronounced dead at 10:35.

In the previous double execution Major Johnson, white, and Eddie Marsh, both of Albany, died Feb. 19.

NEGRO TRIAL HELD UNFAIR

Appeal

Federal Judge to Order Discharge From Death Sentence.

12-15-32

MACON, Ga., Dec. 15.—(AP)—The speedy trial of John Downer, negro, in a courtroom lined with national guardsmen following an effort by a crowd of men to take the negro out of jail, was nullified today in a notice by Federal Judge Bascom S. Deaver that Dec. 23 he would sign an order discharging Downer.

Memphis Tenn.

The negro was sentenced to death for an attack on a young woman at a one-day trial nine days after the crime.

Judge Deaver ruled the trial "was without due process of law and in violation of the federal constitution."

Negro Sentenced.

Constitution

11-29-32

MACON, Ga., Nov. 28.—(AP)—Mack James, negro, today was convicted and sentenced to 20 years in the penitentiary for attempted assault on a white woman. The verdict was brought in, in Bibb superior court following deliberation of about 24 hours.

James denied the charges. It was his second conviction on a charge of attempted assault upon a white woman.

Demand Release of Framed Negro Who Won New Trial

Daily Worker

MACON, Ga., Dec. 19.—As a direct result of the victory of the International Labor Defense in wringing a new trial for the Scottsboro boys out of the United States Supreme Court, John Downer, Negro worker, sentenced to death on a framed charge of "rape" won a new trial on the ground that his trial was "without due process of law and in violation of the federal constitution."

New York

NEW YORK, Dec. 19. — The following wire was sent today by William L. Patterson, National Secretary of the International Labor Defense, to Solicitor General A. S. Skelton, and to the sheriff of Bibbs county, at Macon, Ga.

12-20-32

Hundred sixty thousand American workers members affiliates International Labor Defense demand immediate unconditional release John Downer point out complete similarity between frame up methods this case and Scottsboro.

Macon, Ga Telegraph
Monday, December 26, 1932

THE DOWNER CASE

The law-abiding citizens of Elbert county have shown commendable forbearance during the eighteen months that John Downer, convicted Negro rapist, has been held in Bibb county jail at their expense. These citizens, at a time that tried the mettle of men, and some of them at the risk of reputation and even life itself, helped to save the life of John Downer, as well as the lives of innocent Negroes who were suspected of having committed the crime for which he was convicted. This was not at the time of the trial in Elbert Superior court, but before the trial, and in order that there might be a trial. In our opinion such people, in their effort to maintain law and order, ought to have the co-operation of the courts of the country, at least to the extent of acquitting the innocent or convicting the guilty within a reasonable length of time and by giving more weight to the question of guilt and innocence than to abstract questions raised by buttinskys at home and abroad.—Elberton Star.

Georgia.

3751

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment for Rape

Macon Telegraph

12-17-32

Macon, Ga

Progress

In nullifying the John Downer trial Judge Bascom Deaver served notice to the State of Georgia that protecting its prisoners from angry mobs is insufficient; that they must be given a fair, legal trial.

The Downer trial held under military protection became a test case in our courts and attracted national attention. It was the case of a Negro accused of assault on a white woman. The mob which gathered in Elberton when the Negro was arrested and when he was returned there for a perfunctory trial was the kind of mob which has disgraced justice in Georgia and has given the state a reputation for lawlessness. A few years ago when officers were less diligent and when the protection of the National Guards was not immediately available, the mob would have taken the prisoner and there would have been a lynching. The presence of armed soldiers and machine guns alone prevented an outbreak in Elberton.

Under these circumstances the trial was held and without any motion for change of venue or continuance. The trial consumed a single day and the jury "deliberated" only five minutes before returning the inevitable verdict.

A group of lawyers, Orville A. Park and Harry Strozier, of Macon; A. T. Walden, W. A. Sutherland and Granger Hansell, of Atlanta, became interested in the case and presented a petition for writ of habeas corpus to Judge Deaver. He refused the petition but granted a certificate of probable cause to the circuit court of appeals which remanded the case back here for hearing on its merits. The decision yesterday is Judge Deaver's answer to that hearing.

The decision itself is a splendid judicial analysis of the case and is strengthened by its calm, sane exposition of the events which preceded and followed the trial. Judge Deaver indulged in no verbal fireworks but he made his opinion a firm reprimand to mock-trials.

Answering the state's contention that there was no actual outbreak on the day of the trial, the judge made the logical deduction that the presence of troops gave the mob no opportunity. "Moreover, in the opinion of some of the witnesses", he said, "there would have been a lynching on that day instead of a trial but for the presence of the troops. In fact, the troops were there: and of course it is impossible to know with absolute certainty what would have happened if they had not been there. However, insofar as it is possible to deduce a logical result from known conditions, it is not an unreasonable conclusion to say that very probably the opinion of the witnesses was correct. . . .

"There is more involved in this case than the life of one lowly citizen. The people of this country have declared that no person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law, and the loyal, law-abiding citizens expect that provision to stand as a protection to each one of them. If it may be ignored in one case, it may be ignored in any other case; and, when it becomes ineffective through disregard or evasion, one of the most important rights of the people is destroyed."

By such things as Judge Deaver's decision progress is made in Georgia.

Another opinion to be applauded is Judge James B. Park's in the Joe Groves case. Judge Park ruled that Groves, sentenced to die for his part in the slaying of a deputy sheriff in Thomas county, was illegally re-sentenced to the death chair on Nov. 4. To do this the judge had to declare null and void a section of Georgia's electrocution act which allowed a prisoner to be re-sentenced without being present in the courtroom with his counsel.

The provision which enabled Groves to be re-sentenced without his presence or knowledge is contained in the 1924 electrocution act of the state. The ruling of Judge Park is the first that has been made on the provision. He held that it was in direct opposition to the guarantee in the state and national constitutions that no person shall be deprived of his life, liberty or property without due process of law.

"I consider the provision . . . one of the wisest in said constitution, and is really intended to prevent lynch law, not only by a mob, but by the courts of this country," Judge Park wrote. "It is really worse to deprive a man of his life, liberty or property by mob law than by mob violence."

Judge Park has ruled against a law which manifestly has no place upon our statute books.

Lynchings-1932
6

Illinois.

3755

Legal Punishment for Rape.

274 INDICTED FOR RAPE; ONLY 79 SENTENCED

Chicago Tribune
5-11-32

Many Were for Short Terms, Records Show.

Continued reports of rape cases and other assaults on women and children yesterday caused the Chicago Crime commission to investigate the court records. Seeking information as to whether judges and juries have been too lenient, they found that of 274 men indicted for rape since Jan. 1, 1930, only 79 were sent to prison. Most of the sentences were for extemely short terms.

Meanwhile in the Felony court yesterday an expectant mother appeared as a witness against two alleged rapists and sobbed a story of how she defied death threats of the two men before they beat her into submission. She is Mrs. Anna Arshenick, 23 years old, 1530 Washburne avenue.

Facing Rape Charges.

The two charged with rape and kidnaping are Louis Cohen, 42 years old, 1725 West 13th street, and Harry Freeman, 25 years old, 3431 West Jackson boulevard. Mrs. Arshenick, who expects to become a mother within a month, testified she is separated from her husband but went to met him on April 28, to sign some papers. As she stepped off a street car two men pushed her into an automobile and she lost consciousness.

She awakened, nude, in Freeman's apartment, which is a beer flat, she said, and four men were there playing cards. They made their demands, she testified, but she replied she would rather die than submit. Finally they overcame her. Later Mrs. Freeman, wife of one of the defendants gave her an old dress and 15 cents for car fare, she said. After wandering in a daze she collapsed and was taken to the county hospital, where she told her story and the two defendants were seized.

Judge Howard Hayes, after hearing her story, ordered the defendants held and increased bonds to $10,000. They will get an early trial, he said.

Refuses Long Continuance.

Charles Frankey, 3744 Pine Grove and Donald Avis, 3812 Pine Grove were refused more than a 24 hour continuance yesterday when arraigned before Judge Hayes on complaint of Mrs. Alice Thompson, 3601 Pine Grove avenue. She said she met the two at a dance hall and agreed to go with them to a party. Instead, she testified, they drove her to the vicinity of the drainage canal where Avis attempted to ravish her. Her screams attracted a policeman who arrested the men.

Another case yesterday involved Harold E. Miller, 21 years old, an ex-convict charged with the rape of a 7 year old girl. Miller is being held pending the condition of the child, who is suffering from a disease as the result of the attack. Miller has confessed he lured the child into the basement of his home at 10738 Avenue O.

"The courts should inflict more drastic punishment on rapists," said Col. Henry Barrett Chamberlin, operating head of the crime commission. "We find they have been permitting defendants to be convicted of lesser charges in many instances."

Inflict Few Heavy Penalties.

"In numerous cases the final verdict was contributing to the delinquency of a child, which permits a jail or House of Correction sentence up to 1 year. For rape the penalty is any number of years fixed by judge or jury. We find very few heavy penalties inflicted."

A table was prepared from figures secured by the crime commission from the social service department of the state's attorney's office. It shows that 60 men indicted were dismissed without trial.

Of the defendants found guilty 22 were placed on probation. They were originally indicted for rape, but to make probation possible, it was necessary that the verdict be for a lesser offense, such as contributing to the delinquency of a minor, or assault.

The record of judges in cases reported by the crime commission follows:

	Dismissed.	Not guilty.	Jail.	Prison.	Probation.
Finnegan	3	3	3	8	1
Fisher	8	3	4	13	1
Miller	1	1	2	3	0
J. J. Sullivan	0	0	2	3	2
Sabath	0	0	1	1	5
Prystalski	4	16	5	5	1
Burke	0	2	2	0	2
Schwaba	2	4	2	11	1
Trude	2	1	6	1	0
Gemmill	0	0	0	3	0
Hopkins	0	1	0	0	0
David	6	6	2	11	1
Friend	0	1	0	1	0
Rush	4	9	0	2	0
Williams	4	3	0	1	0
Stanton	6	4	5	1	0
Hall	0	1	0	0	5
Kelly	0	3	3	2	0
McGoorty	1	0	0	1	1
Desort	10	3	0	1	0
P. L. Sullivan	3	2	0	1	1
Steffen	1	1	2	4	0
Kerner	1	1	0	0	0
Frankhauser	2	5	3	3	1
Normoyle	2	0	1	3	2
Totals	60	70	43	79	22

In these cases the indictment was for rape. On indictments for assault to commit rape or attempted rape the courts were more lenient, the crime commission reported.

Lynchings-1932
&
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Oklahoma

3756

Black Dispatch
9-24-32
Oklahoma City, Okla.

CONDEMNED MAN GIVES EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW TO N. A. A. C. P. INVESTIGATOR AT McALESTER

CHARLES DUMAS, NOW UNDER DEATH SENTENCE, SAYS HE WAS PERSUADED TO PLEAD GUILTY BY APPOINTED DEFENSE ATTORNEY

Fear of Mob Violence Had Bearing Upon Plea of Convicted Man

Alleging that he had been railroaded to the penitentiary from Coal County. Oklahoma, on a rape charge, and that he was not guilty, Charles Dumas, Negro, now in the McAlester penitentiary under death sentence, gave an exclusive interview to an N. A. A. C. P. investigator last Wednesday.

Justice Miscarries.

The report on Dumas was secured two days after he was taken to the McAlester prison, at the request of Roscoe Dunjee, president of the state conference of branches of the N. A. A. C. P., and reveals an even more serious miscarriage of justice than the Jess Hollins case, if the Dumas statement is to be believed.

Mob Threat.

Threats of mob violence suggested by officers caused Dumas, according to his statement, to say he was guilty after having been taken into the presence of the girl victim twice who failed to identify him.

Not Guilty.

Later, when the indictment was read to him by Judge Gassoway, Dumas told the court that he was not guilty, but was later persutded by the lawyer appointed by the court to plead guilty, as he would receive a light sentence.

Gets Death Sentence.

Judge Gassoway sentenced Dumas to electrocution immediately upon his hearing the guilty plea.

Here is a portion of the statement made to the N. A. A. C. P. investigator by Charles Dumas. Included in the statement are the names of white persons who heard the victim of the rape attack say she could not identify Dumas:

Charles Dumas states: that he was a prisoner at the time the crime was alleged to have been committed, working in a road camp located 6 miles from Coalgate. That the crime was alleged to have been committed about 7:40 p. m. Saturday, the 10th day of September, 1932. After the crime was committed, and on the night of the alleged crime Dumas together with three other colored people were taken from the camp to the home of the girl where she lived with her mother. The other three prisoners were taken before the girl in the absence of Dumas, and then Charles Dumas was taken before the girl in the presence of the sheriff and another officer and Mr. Terry, who was foreman of the road camp. The girl was asked if she could identify Charles Dumas as the one who committed the crime, she said she coudd not.

Charles Dumas was then taken back to the camp and thereafter, taken again before the girl, when she again made a statement that she could not identify him, as the one who committed the crime. Charles Dumas was placed in the county jail of Coal county and, while in jail the officers came to the jail and stated to him he knew he was the guilty one, and he had better acknowledge it, otherwise, he would be mobbed, that a mob was waiting for him, and he would be killed if he didn't acknowedge that he was the guilty party, and that was the best way out of it.

Charles Dumas then feared that he would be mobbed, and his life taken from him, and having the assurance he would be saved if he plead guilty to it, he then told the officer, that he was guilty. He was then brought to the McAlester penitentiary, where he remained until the following Monday, the 12th of September, 1932, and then taken back to Coalgate and brought before the judge. When the indictment was read to him, he was asked if he was guilty or not guilty and told them he was not guilty.

The court told him they would appoint a lawyer for him and appointed a man by the name of Moore, and Moore told him to plead guilty, that if he did do so, he would get a lighter sentence; that his lawyer did not pertain to make any defense for him, except to tell him to plead guilty.

Charles Dumas states: he is absolutely innocent of the crime, and that he only pleaded guilty fearing that he would be mobbed and killed ,if he did not plead guilty, and under the assurance of the officers that he would not get the death penalty, that a penalty would be lighter if he pleaded guilty.

Lynchings-1932
6

Maryland.

3757

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Marylander Is Given Sixteen Years

(Pictures on Page 16)

ELKTON, Md. —(CNS)— In a courtroom, largely cleared of all spectators, and before three circuit judges, sitting without a jury, George Davis, 28 year old farm hand, was convicted last Tuesday of an attempted assault on Mrs. Elizabeth Lusby, white. Around the courtroom a riot squad of police, augmented by national guard, stood ready to prevent an angry mob from carrying out its threat to lynch Davis.

Journal and Guide 4-16-32

Within the courtroom the trial went on under a cloud of secrecy. No inkling of the testimony adduced at the trial was available. But stories that the whole trial was a frame-up to cover the fact that Davis and the young white woman had kept several love trysts together and that her accusations came as the result of a "lover's quarrel," were prevalent here last week.

The convicted man in the best interest of public policy, was immediately sentenced to serve 16 years in penitentiary for his alleged crime and was hustled out of danger of the mob under a large police guard. The fact that the three judges trying the case, refused to sentence the man to death as they might have done, is given as a reason for the belief that the true facts of the case were not allowed to be published.

Just before rendering the verdict, Judge Adkins warned the spectators against any demonstration and ordered officers to arrest any person who made any comment.

Twenty-two state policemen headed by Captain Edward McK. Johnson and Lieut. Ruxton Ridgely, twenty deputy sheriffs recruited from Kent and Cecil Counties and twelve Baltimore detectives, accompanied by Charles D. Gaither, police commissioner; Capt. Charles H. Burns, of the Detective Bureau, and Detective Lieutenant James P. Downs, pistol expert, were on duty in the town several hours before the trial began at 9:30 A.M.

Lynchings-1932

Louisiana.

3758

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Louisiana Negro Pays With Life For Assault

Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala

HARRISONBURG, LA., Jan. 29.—(AP)—John Henry alias "Buddy Lee" negro, was hanged by the State in the Catahoula Parish jail this afternoon for criminal assault on a white woman. He was convicted last November. The negro went to the gallows without making a statement. The husband of the victim of the attack was among the legal witnesses admitted to the execution.

1-30-32

Lynchings-1932

Mississippi.

3759

Legal Punishment for Rape.

ALLEGED FATHER OF WHITE WOMAN'S CHILD WILL ESCAPE NOOSE

Courier 4-23-32

Pittsburgh Pa.

JACKSON, Miss., Apr. 21—Ervin Pruitt, sentenced three times to hang, got a commutation Saturday to life imprisonment. 4-23-32

Pruitt was convicted on a charge of murder something over a year ago and sentenced to be hanged. It was charged that Pruitt was the father of a child by a married white woman and that after a mob was said to be about to lynch Pruitt, that Pruitt went to the woman's house one night and drew a gun on the white woman and threatened to kill her if she didn't give the baby a certain dose of strychnine alleged to have been brought the woman by Pruitt, but Pruitt's counsel showed that Pruitt was in jail at the time the woman poisoned the baby, and that the child died from a dose of devil lye instead of strychnine.

NEGRO TO DIE OCT. 28 FOR BRUTAL MURDER

Commercial Appeal

Roger Roberts Convicted of Slaying Miss McNeil

9-24-32

JURY OUT 50 MINUTES

Memphis Tenn.

Trial Ends Five Days After Body of Neshoba County Woman Found Half Buried. Victim's Clothing Shown.

9-28-32

Special to The Commercial Appeal.

PHILADELPHIA, Miss., Sept. 27.—Roger Roberts, 45, negro farm hand, late this afternoon was convicted of the brutal murder of Miss Geraldine McNeil, 48, near Union last week and was sentenced to be hanged on Friday, Oct. 28.

The jury deliberated only 50 minutes after receiving the case at 4 p.m. The verdict was guilty of murder in the first degree, as charged, without recommendation of mercy.

The negro remained stoical after being sentenced and told the clerk of the court a few minutes later that he couldn't remember the execution date. The negro was known also as Roger Dudley and Dudley Roberts and served a term in state prison some time ago for a minor offense.

Body Found In Thicket.

In recent months he had been employed on a farm adjoining that of Miss McNeil and her brother, Cornelius. Last Thursday, when Miss McNeil failed to return from a trip after her cows, Cornelius McNeil organized a search and her partly covered body was found in a thicket half a mile from her home.

Her clothing was gone, except for one shoe, and her head was battered. Bloodhounds from Meridian twice took the trail from the scene to the negro's cabin and he was arrested, but maintained his innocence. Officers said he tried to get a weapon out of a trunk, but they stopped him.

He was carried to a jail in another county to prevent mob violence and officers later found some partly burned and bloody clothing of his in the cabin stove. They also found some of Miss McNeil's clothing stuffed in a cabin wall and nearby was a bloody ax. All were exhibited as evidence.

Court being in session, a speedy indictment was returned and the trial was started yesterday morning

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Mississippi Gives Life To Negro In Assault

Advertiser

10-12-32

Montgomery Ala.

M'COMB, MISS., Oct. 11.—(AP)—James McKinley, negro, pleaded guilty in circuit court here today to a charge of criminally attacking a white woman. He was sentenced [illegible]. Authorities immediately took the negro to Jackson.

Man Saved From Hanging For Sixth Time In Mississippi

Journal & Guide

12-3-32

Norfolk, Va.

JACKSON, Miss.—For the sixth time, Tom Carraway, charged with assaulting a white woman, has been saved from the electric chair. This time it was the Mississippi Supreme Court which stayed his execution in order that it may hear an appeal from a decision of the lower court which refused a new trial on the ground of repudiated evidence. Carraway was to have died on Friday November 25.

Since Carraway was convicted in 1931, he has been sentenced to hang five times. One of the bits of evidence figuring in his conviction was his alleged confession made to police after his arrest. At a recent trial, however, Sheriff Wenzell was questioned and cross-questioned until he admitted that Carraway did not confess to the alleged attack.

A motion for a new trial was denied by the circuit court notwithstanding the deputy sheriff's testimony. An appeal was therefore taken to the state's highest tribunal.

Once when Carraway was to hang, only a hectic dash and a race with long distance telephone, telegraph and auto, succeeded in saving him just three minutes before the set time for his execution. S. D. Redmon is Carraway's attorney.

Lynchings-1932

Tennessee.

3760

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Chattanooga, Tenn.
TIMES

JUN 19 1932

THREE VERDICTS.

Three recent trials of Negroes growing out of attacks on white women in this community have all resulted in convictions. The first trial was that of a defendant who pleaded guilty to a charge of attempted criminal assault in the Pound Building. He was sentenced to serve twenty years in the penitentiary and is now in prison. The second trial was that of a young man charged with committing a doubly horrible assault on a woman in Glenwood. The jury fixed his punishment at life imprisonment in the penitentiary.

The third case, tried last week, involved two Negroes charged with assaulting a young woman in South Chattanooga one night last March after attacking and driving off her escort. In this case the jury fixed punishment at death in the electric chair. Neither this case nor the second case has, however, been finally disposed of. In the one case the defense has an allotted time in which to make a motion for a new trial, if it so desires, while the other is pending on motion for another trial.

The verdicts rendered and the punishments fixed by the juries in these three cases are recounted here for the purpose of emphasizing the attitude of the courts toward the crime of rape. The record indicates that the public need have no fear that rapists will not be severely dealt with, and this may be said notwithstanding the fact that punishment of life imprisonment in the Glenwood case was held to be inadequate, that the jury should have either acquitted the defendant or sent him to the electric chair.

The community is to be commended for its faith in the courts and for its self-restraint in the face of the provocations which resulted in the trials herein discussed. It is also to be congratulated on the fact that the fair name of Chattanooga and its people have not been blackened by an exhibition of savage instinct and mob violence. Certainly in the light of the recent trials of rape cases there could be not the slightest excuse for such an exhibition if the community should be so unfortunate as to be the scene of another outrage.

There is need, however, for increased co-operation on the part of the white people of Chattanooga with Negro leaders of the city in their efforts to elevate their race. In sensible, practical work along this line and in the improvement of relations already markedly friendly lies the solution of the race problem in Chattanooga and, also, throughout the South. And it may be remarked that the whites will benefit quite as much as the Negroes from such a course.

Lynchings-1932
6

Oklahoma

3761

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Touring the U. S.

MRS. IRENE HOLLINS

Call 4-8-32 Kansas City Mo.

And Herbert March (white) member of the Hollins Defense committee and district organizer of the Young Communist league are in Kansas City this week on a tour of the United States under the auspices of the Y. C. L., and the International Labor Defense. Jess Hollins, husband of Mrs. Hollins, now in the penitentiary at McAlester, Okla., is sentenced to die June 24 for an alleged charge of rape. From Kansas City Mrs. Hollins will go to Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, and New York.

U. N. I. A. LEADERS TURN DOWN PLEA MADE BY WIFE OF OKLA. PRISONER HELD FOR "RAPE"

East Tennessee News
5-5-32 Knoxville, Tenn.

Local President Speaks Out After Woman's Plea for Organization's Help

ASSIST ONLY MEMBERS

"Negroes Refusing to Go to Africa Better Off Dead," Is Direct Answer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. May 2—(CNA) If a Negro worker or farmer doesn't want to give up the fight for equal rights and follow Marcus Garvey back to Africa, he need not expect no help from the Universal Negro Improvement Association.

That, at least, was what Ed Williams, local president of the U. N. I. A. here, told Irene Hollins, when she appealed at a meeting for support in her struggle to save her husband, Jess, from the electric chair.

Jess Hollins is in the death cell in McAlester penitentiary (Oklahoma). He was arrested last December in Sapulpa, Okla., on the charge of "rape." He was sentenced to die in a 30 minute trial in night court that met at night. The flood of protests from organizations of Negro and white workers forced Governor Murray to grant a stay of execution to June 24—the same date set for the legal murder of the Scottsboro boys.

Irene Hollins, Jess Hollins' 19-year-old wife, is touring the west telling the workers of the frame-up. In this city, she appeared before an audience of one hundred in the U. N. I. A. hall. Williams asked her if she or her husband belonged to the U. N. I. A. When Mrs. Hollins answered no, Williams said that he had no sympathy for Negroes who didn't want to follow Garvey back to Africa. In fact, he said, such Negroes "would be better off dead.'

SAVE YOUNG OKLA. NEGRO, HOLLINS

Daily Worker

ILD Calls for Answer to Lynch--Gov. Murray

8/1/32

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—District 10 of the International Labor Defense calls for renewed efforts to save Jess Hollins, young Oklahoma Negro share-cropper sentenced to die on August 17, after the "liberal" faker, Gov Murray has admitted that only "labor support" has thus far save Hollins from execution on March 11, and later to June 24.

Particularly is this needed to answer Murray's lynch policy against the 170,000 Oklahoma Negroes when he declaerd at the state constitutional convention:

New York City

"The Negroes must be taught in the line of his own sphere as porters bootblacks, and barbers, in which he is an adept, but it is an entirely false notion, that the Negro can rise to the equal of a white man in the profession, or grapple with public questions —I appreciate the old time ex-slave the old darky, who comes to me talking softly in that humble spirit which should characterize their action in dealings with the white man, and when they thus come, they can get any favor from me."

The socialist Ameringer and the bourgeois Negro editor of the weekly "Black Dispatch" have both sabotaged the defense of Hollines in every way.

The case of Hollins who was arrested on Dec. 26th and given a 30 minute trial with a howling lynch mob gathered, must be linked with the Scotsboro, Orphan Jones, etc. cases so that he shall not die. All the demagogs including "Alfalfa Bill" Murray must be answered by the militant protest of workers everywhere.

Where Do The Communists Have Irene Hollins

Black Dispatch
9-24-32
Oklahoma City
Okla.

Anxious Husband In Cell Wants Wife As Witness

"I do not know where my wife is. The last time I heard from her she was in Brunswick, Mo., and without funds to return," said Jess Hollins Wednesday, when questioned in the county jail at Sapulpa by Editor Roscoe Dunjee as to the whereabouts of Irene Hollins, the wife of the defendant, and the most important witness of her husband.

No Communists Present.

Mrs. Hollins has been rushed around over the country in charge of the Communists and the International Labor Defense for the past six months, which organization alleged that they were providing legal defense for Hollins. No Communist attorney was present at Hollins' preliminary hearing Wednesday, nor were they present Monday when he was arraigned. It is known, however, that as late as last week this organization was collecting funds in Oklahoma City for this alleged purpose.

Wants Wife Home.

"I wish someone would tell my wife to come home at once as I need her now to help prove my innocence," continued Hollins.

"I'm Innocent."

Hollins told his attorneys and the N. A. A. C. P. investigators that he was innocent of the charge. He also threw much light on the case and important testimony will doubtless be presented at the trial which may prove his innocence.

Appreciates Help.

"I told the folk down at the penitentiary that if they killed me they had killed an innocent man,' said Hollins. "I did not commit this crime and I certainly do thank the people who have come to my rescue and are helping me to secure a fair trial."

Evidence Assembled.

Following the conference in the jail Senator Redwine, together with local assistance, went immediately into a search for witnesses whom he felt could throw more light on the case. If the clues picked up since Monday, lead in the proper direction startling developments may be expected at the October trial.

Hollins was asked in open court by Judge Gaylord R. Wilcox to ate to the court who his attor-

"Mr. Hill and Mr. Redwine are my attorneys," said Hollins.

JESS HOLLINS PLEADS "NOT GUILTY IN PRELIMINARY TRIAL

Black Dispatch

VENUE CHANGE DEMANDED BY DEFENSE COUNSEL EMPLOYED BY STATE BRANCHES OF THE N. A. A. C. P.

9-24-32

Startling Disclosures Promised When Case Is Heard October 5th

Oklahoma City Oklahoma

SAPULPA, Okla., Sept. 21.—"Not guilty" was the firm, clear, dramatic announcement of Jess Hollins, Negro, charged with the crime of rape upon the person of Alta McCullom, white girl, when arraigned at 10 o'clock this morning in the district court room of Judge Gaylor R. Wilcox.

Venue Change Sought.

The case was set for trial in the district court October 5, at which time defendant attorneys gave notice they will demur to the evidence and demand a change of evidence.

Accuser Married.

Only thirty minutes before, Hollins, who was brought here from the state penitentiary at McAlester Sunday, had faced Justice E. H. Snyder in a preliminary hearing in the same court room, where for the first time he was faced by his accuser, Alta McCullom. The prosecuting witness told the court that since the alleged assault she had married and that her name was now Mrs. Alto Pinion.

Wilcox Presides.

Both Peace Justice Snyder and Judge Gaylord R. Wilcox were the presiding officials last December when, according to the State Criminal Court of Appeals in recently reversing a death sentence pronounced upon Hollins by Wilcox, declared that Hollins had not been granted due process of law.

No Threats Made.

The little courtroom of Judge Wilcox was crowded with a motley crowd of curious coatless men wearing ten-gallon hats, but of the farmer variety, who jammed the jury box and overflowed all over the benches of the chamber. Most of the crowd was white while perhaps twenty-five Negroes sat about in various sections of the room. Three white women with a male escort also sat in the extreme rear. There were no threats of violence.

N. A. A. C. P. in Charge.

Hollins was represented by State Senator W. N. Redwine and Judge E. P. Hill of McAlester, counsel employed by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Editor Roscoe Dunjee, Oklahoma City, president of the state conferences of Branches, N. A. A. C. P., and Prof. R. Benton Bingham of the Oklahoma City Branch, were present as observers and to counsel with their attorneys.

Girl Testifies.

Silence fell over the crowd when the girl prosecuting witness was called to the stand during the preliminary trial, and told of the alleged assault.

"Do you know this man Jess Hollins?"

"I've seen him before," she answered.

The witness in direct examination by county attorney Sebe Christian, went on to outline her version of what happened on the day of the alleged assault.

Hollins Silent.

Redwine and Hill did not place the defendant on the witness stand. Their failure to waive the preliminary was an adroit move to force the state to outline their course of prosecution by placing the complaining witness on the stand.

Track Law.

While the case proceeded rapidly from one lightning change to another, it was plain that the county officials of Creek county were quite evidently attempting to retrace their steps towards the certain electrocution of Jess Hollins according to law. Arraigned in the justice court on Monday, the court waited the bare two days before the preliminary trial. In conference the defendant's attorneys agreed to waive the 24-hour period between the preliminary and the district court hearing.

The information filed in the case charged the defendant with "rape by force." In waiving the twenty-four hours in which to plead, Judge Hill told the court that the waiver was made upon the condition that the defendant's attorneys at a future date be allowed to file a pleading against the sufficiency of the information, and a request for a change of venue.

Alleged Confession.

Only two witnesses were placed upon the stand by the state, the prosecuting witness and former deputy sheriff W. B. Smith. Smith was the arresting officer at the time of Hollins' apprehension. Judge Hill objected, but was overruled, when he protested the introduction of a purported confession of Jess Hollins, and which County Attorney Sebe Christian sought to have Smith identify.

Where Is Irene Hollins?

Black Dispatch

The case of Jess Hollins is set for trial in the district court of Creek county October 5th. Hollins, a Negro whose case was reversed in the Criminal Court of Appeals recently, will be represented by attorneys employed by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The man is charged with having raped a white girl during the month of December, 1931.

9-23-32

Oklahoma City Okla

Immediately following Hollins' arrest, his wife was taken in charge by members of the Communist organization and the International Labor Defense. After holding meetings in Oklahoma City, where funds were raised, the young woman was taken to Kansas City, and there the trail is lost.

Jess Hollins was arraigned Monday. He was given a preliminary trial Wednesday and his case set for trial in the district court October 5th. Where were the Communist lawyers and the International Labor Defense on this important occasion? It was freely stated about Oklahoma City by Communists and Communist sympathizers as late as last Tuesday that J. J. Carney and M. A. Looney had gone to Sapulpa to arrange for the preliminary, and while this talk was going on more money was raised by the score of white and colored Communist workers among the Negroes of the capital city.

Of course, in justice to Judge M. A. Looney, this writer knew all of the time that this eminent jurist did not intend to appear in the Sapulpa hearing. Judge Looney stated before he filed a brief in the Appeals Court that he was not employed by the Communists, and, that furthermore the Communist organization could not employ him.

Having failed to represent Hollins in the hour when he needed help, the Communists are guilty of a more serious offense. They have dragged the wife of Jess Hollins around over the country for propaganda purposes, and now as the day of his trial looms, no one seems to be able to locate her or know anything about her.

Irene Hollins is the most important witness upon whom Jess Hollins depends for his defense. The Communist organization have a bare two weeks to take some of the money they have been raising and return her to Sapulpa. If the Communist organization does not do this, or provide some method by which the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People may know of her whereabouts and return her at the expense of the Association the Communist organization will assume responsibility for the electrocution of Jess Hollins, which may occur if his wife is not returned for the witness stand October 5th.

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Oklahoma.

3762

CREEK COUNTY FARCE IN JESS HOLLINS CASE DECLARED VOID BY CRIMINAL COURT OF APPEALS

Black Dispatch

9-17-32

VASSILATING POLICIES OF COMMUNISTS HALTED BY ATTORNEYS WHO ENTER THE CASE AMICUS CURIAE

Oklahoma City, Okla.

High Court's Opinion Tracks Owens-Looney Brief Almost To Letter

The criminal court of appeals Friday set aside the death sentence of Jess Hollins, Negro, convicted in Creek county on the 30th day of December, 1931, on the charge of rape. Hollins is alleged to have confessed during the proceedings held void by the high court. He was charged with an assault upon the person of Alta McCullom.

Communist agitators in Oklahoma City have had charge of Hollins' case, but the record shows that from the time that they took charge of the case up unitil within a few weeks of the time set for Hollins to die, the local organization did nothing more effective than to protest to Governor Murray.

Would Denounce Court.

According to some of the Negro members of the Communist organzation in Oklahoma City, extreme measures had to be resorted to by them to prevent the white radidals in the local organization from passing and publishing resolutions denouncing the appeals court, since that high tribunal granted Hollins a trial. It is freely stated that because of the terrible bungling of the Hollins case internal strife is extant among the Communist, and that a change in management is being agitated.

Vassillating Policies.

On June 7, 1932, six months after Hollins' sentence, and after the Communists had transported Hollins' wife all around over the country, raising money and exploiting her for the major purposes of the organization, an affidavit was secured from Hollins which was not made a matter of record in the appeals court until August 17, 1932 more than sixty days later.

Loe Intervenes.

Effective halting of the death sentence did not come until thru the efforts of William J. Loe, Congress Hotel, Oklahoma City, and who [illegible] a Communist, the services of the law firm of Owens and Looney were secured in the interest of the condemned man

Looney Not Employed By Communists.

Attorney Looney, in a statement to the Black Dispatch, said that he became interested in the case because he felt that as a good citizen of the state he should be interested in good government and good public policies. "I don't think that any citizen regardless of his color, should be railroaded to the penitentiary," said Looney.

When quized, Looney stated that he had not been mployed by the Communists and that he would not accept eployment from them. "I only entered the case at the request of my friend Loe," he continued. Looney said that the case had been terribly bungled and mishandled. "My services are givenfreely in the interest of good government," said Looney.

As soon as the Owens-Looney law firm became interested in the case they at once discovered technical omissions on the part of the Creek county officials in not tracking the law. "We found out that the Creek county officials had not placed in the hands of the governor a certified copy of the transcript of the record, which is mandatory under Oklahoma law," said Looney. "We called the attention of the governor's office and the pardon and parole board to this fact, and it was upon representation that the 30 days stay was granted by the governor.

Court Grants Request.

Owens and Looney immediately filed application with the criminal court of appeals, requesting that they be permitted to appear before the court, amicus curiae. This request was granted.

The 15-page brief submitted to the high court on August 20 by Owens and Looney asked that the trial in Creek county be declared void because Hollins had not been granted due process of law, and the brief declared that habeas corpus was the proper remedy for relief of the defendant, (instead of the 8-month impotent agitation of the Communist organization).

Decision Adheres To Brief.

The decision of the court in granting a new trial to Hollins almost tracts to the letter the propositions set up in the Owens and Looney brief. Twelve reasons are given as justification for the court declaring the alleged trial void. Here they are:

1. That the defendant was deprived of counsel during all stages of the proceedings.
2. The defendant was not advised of his right to counsel by the Committing Magistrate at any of the proceedings had before him.
3. The defendant was not advised by the Trial Judge of his right of counsel during any of the proceedings had before him.
4. The defendant was not advised by anyone of his right to counsel at all stages of the proceedings.
5. When the defendant appeared for arraignment in the District Court he was without counsel and was not informed of his right to counsel before being arraigned, nor asked if he desired counsel. He was not informed that if he were unable to employ counsel that the court would assign counsel to defend him without expense to the defendant.
6. The defendant was not given a copy of the information filed against him.
7. Defendant was never furnished with a list of the witnesses to be used in chief by the State to prove the allegations of the information.
8. The defendant was not allowed his statutory time in which to plead.
9. The defendant was not advised by the Court that if he pled guilty the court would be authorized to find him guilty without hearing any other evidence.
10. He was not advised that his plea of guilty would waive his right to have a jury exercise its discretion as to the punishment to be imposed upon him.
11. He was not advised of his right to be tried by a jury, and that the jury, should he be found guilty, would have a right to fix his punishment at any time in the penitentiary from fifteen years to life, or to fix the death penalty.
12. He was not advised that he could not be compelled to give evidence against himself.

The brief continues:

Proposition

The proceedings, judgment and conviction are void for want of due process of law.

In the case of Howington v State, 30 Okla Cr. 243, 235 Pac 931, this court said:

"In cases of this kind, where the defendant is charged with a capital offense, he should have the advantage of every right which the law secures to his upon him trial. A fair and impartial administration of justice is one of the most sacred rights of the citizen, and it is the duty of the courts to see that the constitutional rights of the accused shall not be violated; however guilty he may be, he is entitled to a fair trial according to the due and orderly couse of the law.

"No act which a court can be called upon to perform is more grave and solemn than to pronounce judgment and sentence upon a plea of guilty in a capital case." This defendant has been deprived of rights guaranteed to him by the constitution and statutes of this state.

Section 7 of the Bill of Rights provides:

"No person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property, without due process of law."

Section 20 of the Bill of Rights is as follows:

"In all criminal prosecutions the accused shall have the right to a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury of the county in which the crime shall have been committed; provided, that the venue may be changed to some other county of the state, on the application of the accused, in suh manner as may be prescribed by law. He shall be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation against him and have a copy thereof, and be confronted with the witnesses. He shall have the right to be heard by himself and counsel; and in capital cases, at least two days befors the case is called for trial, he shall be furnished with a list of the witnesses that will be called in chief, to prove the allegations of the indictment or information, together with their post office addresses."

Section 2484, C. O. S. 1921, provides:

"When the defendant is brought before a magistrate upon an arrest, either with or without a warrant, on a charge of having committed a public offense, the magistrate must immediately inform him of the charge against him, and of his right to the aid of counsel in every stage of the proceedings, and also of his right to waive an examination, before any further proceedings are had."

Section 2490, C. O. S. 1921, provides:

"At the examination the magistrate must, in the first place, read to the defendant the complaint on file before him. He must also, after the commencement of the prosecution, issue subpoenas for any witnesses required by the prosecutor or the defendant."

Section 2595, C .O. S. 1921, provides:

"If, on the arraignment, the defendant requires it, he must be allowed until the next day, or such further time may be allowed him as the court may deem reasonable, to answer the indicement or information."

Section 2759 and 2760 C. O. C. 1921 provides:

"After a plea or verdict of guilty, or after a verdict against the defendant on a plea of a former conviction or acquittal if the judgment is not arrested or a new trial granted, the court must appoint a time for pronouncing judgment."

"The time appointed must be at least two days after the verdict, if the court intend to remain in session so long; or, if not, at as remote a time as can reasonably be allowed."

This defendant, was deprived of constitutional rights in that he was never advised of his right to counsel, nor had he the benefit of the advice of counsel at any stage of the proceedings.

In Brown v State, 37 Okla Cir. 406, 266 Pac 476, this court had before it a similar state of facts. In that case Elijah Brown the defendant, was convicted of rape and sentenced to a term of fifty years in the penitentiary. The facts were as follows: On the 8th day of July, 1925, a complaint was filed before the County Judge, Cotton County, charging the defendant with rape in the first degree, and the record discloses that a preliminary trial was set for July 13, 1925. Defendant was remanded to jail to await preliminary hearing. On July 9, 1925, the defendant, Brown, was brought before the County Judge and asked the court to certify his case to the District Court without delay, the defendant waiving preliminary hearing upon the charge of rape. The case was immediately certified to the District Court by the County Judge and ON THE SAME DAY, July 9th, 1925, information was filed by the County Attorney charging the defendant with rape alleged to have been committed on the 30th day of June, 1925.

The District Judge was called from Lawton to Walters and the Defendant, was taken before the District Court immediately after the filing of the information, and before a copy of the information had been srvd upon him, or a list of th witnesses that were to be used against him. The district court received a plea of guilty of the defendant and sentenced him to fifty years imprisonment at hard labor in the penitentiary at McAlester.

It was contended by counsel in that case that the proceedings had on defendant's plea and sentence were illegal and void, and that the judgment and sentence was in violation of the defendant's rights as guaranteed to him by the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma, and that he was deprived of the benefit of counsel and deprived of his liberty without due process of law, and that, therefore, the proceedings and judgment rendered thereon were void and that the court had no jurisdiction of the person of the defendant, or the subject matter.

The second paragraph of the sullabus is as follows:

"A plea of guilty should be entirely voluntary and should be made by one competent to know the consequences of his plea, and should not be accepted by the court until the defendant has been fully advised of his rights and the consequences of his plea."

The third paragraph of the syllabus is as follows:

"The defendant's constitutional right to be heard by counsel is not limited to the right to be heard by counsel at the time of the trial. A person accused of a felony is entitled to counsel at every stage of the proceedings.

The court, at page 483, in the body of the opinion, said:

"Under our laws every person accused of a felony is entitled to the aid of counsel at every stage of the proceedings, whether imprisoned or admitted to bail, and the refusal of opportunity to procure such counsel amounts to a deprivation of the rights essential to his safety. Polk v State (Okla Cr. app) 224 P 193; Sutton v State (Okla Cr. App) 250 P 930."

"The constitutional right of the defendant to be heard by counsel is not limited to the trial, but the provision contemplates the right of the accused to consult with counsel at every stage of the proceedings.

"The information in this case charged an offense for which the plnishment prescribed by the Statute is death, or imprisonment in the penitentiary for 15 years to life. If the defendant had been represented by counsel learned in the law before arraignment, he would have been advised that he had a right to be tried by a jury, and the jury, should he be found guilty, would have a right to fix the punishment at any time in the penitentiary from 15 years to life, or to fix the death penalty; that he could not be compelled to give evidence against himself. He would have been advised that, if he pleaded guilty, the court would be authorized to find him guilty without hearing any other evidence. He would also have been advised that his plea of guilty would waive his right to have a jury exercise its discretion as to the punishment to be imposed on him. He would also have been advised of his right to have furnished him a copy of the information, and a list of the witnesses for the state, together with their post office address, at least two days before being called on the plead to the information. Goben v State, 20 Okla Cr. 220, 201 U 812, and cases cited.

"In a criminal action the defendant has a right to plead guilty and the effect of such a plea is to authorize a judgment and conviction, and the imposing of the punishment prescribed by law. The plea should always be voluntarily made, and the party charged at the time should be competent to know the consequences and should not be induced by fear, persuasion, promise or ignorance. In some states pleas of guilty, where one is charged with a capital offense, is not reived. In others a jury must be impaneled in capital cases to assess the punishment. It is not disputed that many constitutional guarantees may be waived by a person accused of crime, who goes into court represented by counsel and being fully advised of all of his rights. However, it is not clearly shown by the record in this case that the defendant did waice any of his constitutional or statutory rights except so far as his plea of guilty waived his right to be tried by a jury.

"This court is of the opinion the constitutional right to be represented by counsel in capital cases, to be furnished a list of witnesses together with their post office addresses at least two days before the case is called for trial, and a copy of the information ,are essential to due process of law granted to a citizen by section 7 of the Bill of Rights. We hold that a conviction had by a denial of the defendant's constitutional rights amounts to a denial of due process of law."

(Page 484)

"And that the judgment and conviction in this case is void for want of due process of law.

The defendant was deprived of constitutional rights guaranteed by Section 20 of the Bill of Rights, supra, in that he was never furnished with a list of the witnesses, together with their post office addresses, to be used in chief by the State to prove the allegations of the information.

In Brown v State, supra, the fourth syllabus is as follows:

"The Bill of Rights (Const Art 2, No. 20) provides that in capital cases at least two days before the case is called for trial he (the accused) should be furnished a list of the witnesses that will be called in chief to prove the allegations of the indictment, or information, together with their post office addresses, HELD, that this provision of the Constitution does not require the defendant in a capital case to demand a list of the witnesses to be called in chief because the constitution makes demand for him, and the court is without authority to force him to trial until this provision has been complied with, unless the defendant has waived this right."

Quoting from the body of the opinion the court said: (p 483)

"In Sutton v State, 250 P 930, this court, in construing the second paragraph of the section 20 of the Bill of Rights states:

"That, in a capital case, the defendantdoes not have to demand a list of the witnesses, together with their post office addresses; that the constitution makes the demand for him, and, unless he waives it, he cannot be legally put upon trial until that demand has been complied with.' Spess v State, 13 Okla Cr. 277, 164 P 131; Goben v State, 20 Okla Cr. 220, 201 Pac 812; Polk v State (Okla Cr. App) 224 P 194.'

It will be observed that this court from the record found that the defendant was not advised of his right to counsel, was not furnished a list of the witnesses, both of which rights were guaranteed to him by the Constitution, and that since the defendant was deprived of these rights the judgment and conviction in this case if VOID FOR WANT OF DUE PROCESS OW LAW.

In the case of Mullen v State, 20 Okla Cr. 218, 230 Pac 285, the defendant, charged with murder, was arrested one day, waived preliminary examination the next day and was immediately arraigned. He then waived his rights to counsel, was read the information and permitted to plead. Before his plea of guilty was received, he was advised by the court that a sentence of life imprisonment or death could be given on such a plea. Two days afterwards, the court appointed an attorney and pronounced a sentence of death. Defendant's attorney then attempted to withdraw the plea of guilty but was refused. On appeal, the holding of the lower court was reversed on the ground that where defendant made his plea of guilty without the advice of counsel, he must be advised by the court that he was entitled to a jury trial and that it would be within the discretion of the jury to assess the punishment.

On page 290 of the opinion the court said:

"In this case it appears that the defendants were informed by the court that they had a right to have counsel to represent them, and that if they were unable to employ counsel it would be the duty of the court to appoint counsel for them. This right they expressly waived. But the record shows that the consequences of a plea of guilty was not explained to them before their pleas were entered. It appears that after the pleas were entered, and before accepting the same, the court informed them that the law authorized the court to inflict the death penalty, or that of imprisonment for life.

"The defendants were not informed that, in case they were tried by a jury and found guilty of murder, the jury in its discretion would have the right to decide whether the penalty to be imposed should be death or imprisonment for life, and that by pleading guilty they waived the right to have the jury exercise its discretion as to that matter.

"Had the defendant been represented by counsel, they would have been informed of their constitutional rights to refuse to answer the questions which elicited the prejudicial facts which seem to have been considered by the trial court in determining which of the penalties provided by law should be imposed. They would also have been informed of their right to have a copy of the information and to be furnished with a list of the witnesses for the state together with their post office addresses at least two days before being called upon to plead to the information."

"No act which a court can be called upon to perform is more serious and solemn than to render a capital judgment on a plea of guilty. To perform such a duty the judge is reconciled only by the consideration that it is not he who does it but the law of which he is simply the minister, and for this reason in a capital case the accused should be accorded in full measure every right guaranteed by the constitution and the Statutes."

"The law of the land guarantees to everyone accused of crime, whether rich or poor, a fair and impartial trial. The rights of just and upright citizens are no more sacred in the eyes of the law than the rights of the poorest and meanest citizens of the state. The safeguards erected by the constitution are intended to protect all citizens alike. They protect the rights of the guilty, as well as those of the innocent. This court cannot give its sanction to the conviction of any person accused of crime where the proceedings on which the accused was entitled under the Constitution. Such judicial sanction in any case would impair, if not destroy the efficacy of the constitutional safeguards to protect the rights of all citizens of the state. However guilty defendants may be, they are entitled to a fair trial in accordance with the rules of law.

In the case of Tipton v State, 30 Okla Cr. 105, 235 Pac 259, where the defendant was sentenced on a plea of guilty with "unseemly haste," this court, in reversing the judgment of the lower court held; (Syll 1)

"On tse arraignment of a defendant, who appears without counsel before a magistrate on a charge of felonv it is the duty of the magistrate to fully inform the defen ant of his right to counsel and his right to a preliminary trial."

Lynchings-1932

Pennsylvania

3763

Legal Punishment for Rape.

Death Of Negro Asked For Strangling Of Girl

3-30-32

PHILADELPHIA, March 29.—(AP)—Death in the electric chair was the penalty demanded today for William E. Brown, 16-year-old negro on trial on a charge of murder in connection with the attacking and slaying of seven-year-old Dorothy Lutz.

A jury of 12 men was completed before the noon recess and State opened its case immediately after. Asst. Dist. Atty. Clare G. Fenerty asked the jurors to fix the penalty at death.

The Lutz child was found strangled in a second floor bed room of a vacant house near her home, five days after she disappeared last February.

Police said Brown confessed he attacked and killed the little girl.

COURTROOM CROWDED AS VERDICT IS REVEALED

Courier 4-9-32

PHILADELPHIA, Apr. 7—Fair Justice must have bowed her head in shame here in Criminal Court late Friday afternoon when an all-white jury found 16-year-old Willie Brown guilty of first degree murder for the alleged slaying of Dorothy Lutz, 7, white, last January. Death in the electric chair seemed probable for the youth as Judge McDevitt made his charge to the jury late Monday.

The tragic decision, which was read as the unsuspecting lad sat in the crowded courtroom, came after an unsuccessful attempt by defense attorneys to prove that the boy and his mother were at a theater on the afternoon and evening of the Lutz girl's disappearance.

Pittsburgh

In the face of a signed statement by Willie's mother admitting that her son had told her about the killing, in the presence of police, Attorney Raymond Pace Alexander and his associates' attempt to establish an alibi failed utterly.

The boy, continually declaring his innocence, held up remarkably under the rapid cross-fire of the prosecuting attorney, Assistant District Attorney Clare G. Fenerty. The youth maintained his quiet demeanor throughout the ordeal, but showed the results of the week's gruelling when he took the stand Thursday. His face was ashen, his eyes, naturally small, were almost closed at times under heavy lids. His forehead bore deep furrows, but his conduct was beyond reproach.

Starting out with the premise that this was a criminal case of the most dastardly type, prejudice, animosity and contempt, which even reflected itself in the actions and countenances of the prosecutors and jurors, are believed to have played a major role in sealing the boy's doom.

Attorney Alexander's plea for a "not guilty" or a "second degree' verdict was overshadowed by the commonwealth attorney's persistent demand for a "first degree" decision.

The little Lutz girl's grandfather left the city and went to Binghampton, New York, and remained there for the duration of the trial.

BIAS OF JUDGE IN WILLIE BROWN CASE IS SLAP AT JUSTICE

Courier 4-16-32

Pittsburgh Pa

By J. MAX BARBER

DR. BARBER

PHILADELPHIA, April 14 — Willie Brown has been convicted of the murder of little Mary Lutz. A few weeks ago I outlined the circumstances attending this case. A little six-year-old white girl was missing from her home one night in February. After a long search by the police they found her body in a vacant house near her home. The police concluded that she had been attacked and then strangled. The tragedy took place in the notorious river front district of Philadelphia, in that section known as "the band-box tenement district." Willie Brown, a 16-year-old Negro boy, was arrested as a suspect. He had disappeared from home the day after the crime and a ring belonging to the boy (according to the police) was found beneath the body of the little girl. The evidence seemed to point to the boy's guilt. We must have no quarrel with society and the courts for meting out justice to the guilty. Law is the bulwark society has erected around itself for its protection against its own destruction. If Brown is guilty, he deserves punishment. Whether that punishment should be electrocution as would be expected for a full grown man, or long imprisonment, or treatment in some institution for defectives is another question.

There is room for legitimate criticism, however, of the violently partisan conduct of the presiding judge. As a layman understands it it is the judge's duty to be fair and impartial during a trial. If he shows any partiality in the case, it should be toward the defendant. Certainly a judge must see to it that the prisoner at the bar has every opportunity to establish his innocence. According to newspaper reports, Judge McDevitt seemed to take every opportunity to help fasten guilt on this Negro boy. He was zealous—over zealous—in his assistance to the prosecution and in curtailing the attorney for the defense. He appeared violently antagonistic to both the prisoner and the attorney. The court assumed the appearance more of a French court than that of an American court. The prisoner was presumed to be guilty until he established his innocence. All colored veniremen were turned down. At every point in the trial the judge showed obtrusive interference against the defense.

He ordered the defense attorney not to "holler" at the witness. He even interrupted the address of the defense to challenge a statement about police brutality and third degree methods. His glee was too evident over the address of the prosecution. He called the state attorney to him and congratulated him before the jury had given its decision. A layman would feel that his charge to the jury and a biased accent. It would have been difficult to have cleared an innocent man in that court.

Was this the attitude of a just judge? We have a right to expect judicial poise in our courts and not the temperament of some one who is suffering from delusion of a crusader. Judges have no right to act as if they and they alone are the Swiss guard of virtue and law—no right to use their position to bully defense attorneys. There are some judges, as well as some policemen who should learn that there can be a menace of the law as well as a menace of lawlessness. When Attorney Raymond Pace Alexander denounced police brutality he was strictly within the bounds of the truth. In cases like this where the prisoner is poor, ignorant, and a Negro besides, the police can be and usually are, as brutal as Cossacks. They do beat and torture prisoners. Judge McDevitt replies that he has never seen prisoners with heads bound as a result of police brutality in extorting confessions from the prisoner. Justice is sometimes blind and so are judges. And any judge who was as anxious for a guilty verdict as this judge seemed to be—well, his word is not necessarily a thing one should set his watch by. Only last week the Philadelphia police shot to death a naked Negro who was already wounded and was at that time being X-rayed in a hospital. Does anybody question police lawlessnes in trying to enforce prohibition?

The obligation of a judge should bind him to temperance, fairness, equity. It is not the case of Willie Brown, but the question of partisanship on the part of a judge which should concern us. The future is dark with danger if a judge uses his position to bulldoze the defense, lead the prosecution by the hand and practically dictate to the jury. Such conduct is not necessary in order to convict the guilty.

PA. YOUTH FACES CHAIR FOR DEATH OF WHITE GIRL

Whip 4-16-32

Chicago, Ill.

PHILADELPHIA, April 13.—Friday afternoon, an all-white jury found 16-year-old Willie Brown guilty of first degree murder for the alleged slaying of Dorothy Dutz, 7, white last January. Death in the electrc chair seemed probable for the youth as Judge McDevitt made his charge to the jury late Monday.

The tragic decision, which was read as the unsuspecting lad sat in the crowded courtroom, came after an unsuccessful attempt by defense attorneys to prove that the boy and his mother were at a theater on the afternoon and evening of the Lutz girl's disappearance.

In the face of a signed statement by Willie's mother admitting that her son had told her about the killing, in the presence of police, Attorney Raymond Pace Alexander and his associates' attempted to establish an alibi failed utterly.

The boy(continually declaring his innocence, held up remarkably under the rapid cross-fire of the prosecuting attorney, Assistant District Attorney Clare G. Fenerty. The youth maintained his quiet demeanor throughout the ordeal, but showed the results of the week's gruelling when he took the stand Thursday. His face was ashen, his eyes naturally small, almost closed at times under heavy lids. His forehead bore deep furrows, but his conduct was beyond reproach.

Starting out with the promise that this was a criminal case of the most dastardly type, prejudice, animosity and contempt, which even rebected itself in the actions and countenances of the presecutors and jurors, are believed to have played a major role in sealing the boy's doom.

Attorney Alexander's plea for a "not guilty" or a "second degree" verdict was overshadowed by the commonwealth attorney's persistent demand for a "first degree" decision. The little Lutz girl's grandfather left the city and went to Binghampton, New York, and remained there for the duration of the trial.

BIAS CHARGED TO JUDGE IN BROWN CASE APPEAL

Journal and Guide

Attorneys Asked For New Trial For Youth

5-7-32

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. — Thoroughly convinced that Willie Brown did not receive a fair and impartial trial when he was convicted before Judge McDevitt of the murder of young Dorothy Lutz, white, counsel for the condemned youth, argued for a new trial before the judges of the Quarter Sessions Court, sitting en banc, in Room 453, City Hall, last wek. Judge Harry S. McDevitt, Judge Howard Davis, and Judge Terry heard the argument.

Norfolk, Va.

In arguing the appeal Friday, Raymond P. Alexander and Robert N. C. Nix, counsel for the defense, charged that Assistant District Attorney Fenerty committed a gross error and prejudiced Brown's defense by referring to other murder cases where the death penalty was obtained and by comparing Brown's case with these other cases.

Counsel quoted several Supreme Court decisions to substantiate his argument of error and bias against the prosecuting attorney. He also remarked that Judge McDevitt made no effort to correct the District Attorney or to instruct the jury to disregard the improper remarks.

Says Judge Was Unfair

A charge of unfairness in the charge of Judge McDevitt was alleged and argued as the main reason for new trial. Before a court room crowded with lawyers, grand jurors, and interested spectators, and in the presence of several representatives of the press, Mr. Alexander cited no less than six specific instances of error on the part of the trial judge; each "error" based on alleged prejudiced remarks made in Judge McDevitt's charge to the jury.

Journal and Guide

The argument was discussed from many angles by the assembled judges. Mr. Fenerty, the Assistant District Attorney, did not present any argument against the appeal. He contented himself with sarcasms and said he could see no errors in the trial. Decision was reserved and is expected to be handed down early next week. 5-7-32

The records in the Brown case numbered over 1,000 closely typewritten pages—the trial of the action having lasted one full week, with one evening session.

The cast attracted widespread attention and racial prejudice was played up by some of the white papers. Mr. Alexander and Mr. Nix donated their services to the defense of William Brown.

WHITE MAN CONVICTED OF ATTACKING GIRL, 11

Amsterdam News

PITTSBURGH, May 30.—A 62-year-old white rapist is going to the penitentiary for one year by reason of the activity of the Pittsburgh branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which procured his conviction according to announcement by Mrs. Jeanne S. Scott, branch secretary.

6-1-32

New York

N.Y.

The white man, Harry [illegible]edford, attacked the 11-year-old daughter of a laundress who was delivering the week's washing to him. The assault occurred at Clairton, Pa., and medical aid or examination was refused the child by all the white doctors in Clairton, according to Mrs. Scott, who reports that the little girl had to be taken to McKeesport, where Dr. W. W. Gittens examined her.

Lynchings - 1932

Honolulu, Hawaii.

3752

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

THE MASSIE VERDICT.

Chicago Tribune 5/9/32

The Massie verdict was the one least expected and the one the country was the least prepared to accept. The alternative had seemed to be a disagreement or acquittal. Disagreement might have been inherent in a jury composed of mixed breeds and nationalities when the question was so charged with the imponderables of race. What actually comes of the trial is an island verdict, a verdict of the possessions against the possessor, given regardless of the strains of blood represented in the jury box. That is something for serious consideration in connection with the future government of the islands.

Kelley, the prosecuting attorney, white and American, attacked the navy. He is a product of native politics. Cristy, the judge to whom the indictments were returned, from whose court the trial was removed for cause, is also affected by native politics. It was in his court that the prosecution failed of conviction in the rape case. The prosecution could not get a verdict when five natives or breeds were brought to trial for a crime which is as abhorrent to Americans as murder, which is more abhorrent when committed as these gangsters committed it than is the crime of murder in passion.

It might be said—and apologists will say it—that the verdict, guilty of manslaughter, was legally unescapable. The Hawaiian rapist was killed, whether the injured husband and mother and the two sailors planned to kill him or not. But legal justice requires some different precedents than those of this case. It must not be a singular instance in the record of the courts, but the unexceptional rule. It cannot have a background of miscarriage of justice with political connivance. The theory of law must deplore private justice. It is passionate and erring, but it cannot in all cases be written out of the probabilities of the American people and the point cannot be ignored that in the law of English speaking peoples private justice has deeper roots than the king's. It preceded the justice of the commonwealth.

The defendants in the Massie case had waited for the law of the islands to take its course. The wife, the husband and the mother subjected themselves to the necessary torments involved in the prosecution of the five men who had raped the woman and seriously injured her, breaking her jaw in their brutality. The jury refused to convict and the Hawaiian community not only accepted this verdict quite calmly but proceeded to slander the victim.

The Hawaiian community is not large, comparatively, for the handling of police cases, but the police were either indifferent or worthless. The Americans who had suffered from an unspeakable [illegible] that under the island government the law was prepared to forget it and ignore them. They then undertook private justice because they could not submit to injustice. Thereupon the island law, having been indifferent, became vindictive. Regret that navy men had to take justice in their own hands must begin with regret that the law, the government and the political conditions of a possession of the United States are such as to make extralegal justice necessary. The alternative was that rape by gangs should be regarded as of small consequence. One-half of the judicial, police and prosecuting zeal which was expended against the defendants in the manslaughter case might have satisfied justice in the rape case.

It may be noted that in accordance with an undesirable theory of defense in American courts the navy lieutenant had to be regarded as temporarily insane before his lawyers thought he could face twelve men with the confession that he had shot the legally immune ravisher of his wife. Instead of a fake insanity the true defense was that there had been corruption of law.

Native moralities are said to be different from the American code which makes the inviolability of woman the essential of civilization, but native moralities are not the foundation of law in Hawaii and they do not explain the attitude of the white officials of government there. That explanation may be sought in politics. The greatest degradation of political action will be found when persons of a supposedly superior race obtain their place by the suffrage of people they would regard, outside of questions of their own political advantage, as their inferiors. When the officials of a governing class seek advantage by propitiating the people of simpler or lesser breeds government becomes contemptible. That apparently is the situation in Hawaii.

It would be disastrous in any possession, but **Hawaii is the outpost of the United States. It is the Pacific naval base and the western protection of the American frontier. In this all important naval base politics directed by American officials has produced an anti-navy spirit to satisfy native** voters and the thing is intolerable. A white prosecutor in a criminal trial lines up not only the natives but island minded whites against the defense forces of the United States. He appeals to prejudice against admirals and sailors to send a naval lieutenant to jail because the naval lieutenant was forced by island injustice to punish a crime with his own pistol.

The navy is in Hawaii because it must be. The men of the navy are there because they are sent by the government. Their wives apparently are there at their own risk.

The Massie case in all its particulars, inclusive of the original crime and of the verdict against the navy defendants, disclosing the conditions now revealed, requires a reorganization of the government of the islands. The present one is a failure and a peril.

THE MASSIE DEFENDANTS FREE.

Chicago Tribune 5-7-32

The act of Gov. Judd of Hawaii in commuting the sentence of the Massie defendants to one hour from ten years of hard labor, expunged the physical part of the punishment voted by the jury and imposed by the judge. Their counsel and their friends seek further relief in action which will restore citizenship lost by the conviction.

When justice has an initial misdirection the consequences may easily be deplorable at every subsequent step. There was one opportunity for this case to meet the requirements of law and justice. The local authorities failed in the first instance. Honolulu and its environs do not offer insurmountable obstacles to the prevention of such crimes as that which brought such consequences in its train, nor if such a crime could be committed in spite of police control ought the conditions to be such as to make detection and punishment of the criminals impossible.

The island authorities failed in a prosecution which should have been certain, and at that point responsibility for everything happening afterward begins. The victims of the first crime had submitted to the harrowing necessities of law in relying on it and they were repaid for their submission with increased injustice. For reasons which may be found in local politics, in social and racial feelings, in administrative weakness or indifference, the law failed.

From this moment nothing could be satisfactory to the requirements of a civilized community. The immunity of the criminals was intolerable. The feelings of the victims were unendurable. The execution of private justice was deplorable, but almost inevitable, given the code which prevails among the people wronged. The prosecution of the administrators of the private justice had to follow in due course, but the verdict which convicted them was an offense to the perplexed moral senses which could be disturbed by an act of justice outside the law and outraged by a formal act of justice within it.

The clemency which commuted the sentence of course made a travesty of the conviction and yet left a legal although not a moral odium attached to the persons twice victimized, once by the social and political laxness and again by the law's forms. Meanwhile, except for the criminal who was killed for his part in the original crime, the perpetrators of it evidently are to escape because everybody connected with the case is exhausted by it.

One failure of law and such have been the consequences.

The Honolulu Verdict

[illegible] 5-7-32

The Verdict, guilty of manslaughter, handed in by the jury in the case of the four American lynchers in Honolulu was a very mild one indeed, we think. Testimony in the case seems to us to have warranted nothing less than a second degree murder conviction. Clarence Darrow did all he could to save his compatriots and it was doubtless due to his effort that the verdict was as mild as it was. From all accounts we have seen the trial progressed in orderly fashion and the only outbursts were those given forth by Mrs. Massie, wife of Lieutenant Massie who shouldered the blame of the shooting that an insanity plea might be made.

Notice of appeal has been filed by councel. Appeal and subsequent acquittal may be had, but this one thing is certain: the law is not everywhere to be tampered with simply because the faces of the tamperers are white.

Columbia S.C.

All sorts of asinine statements are being made in the American press. One so eminent as Dudley Field Malone has lost his head to so great an extent as to wire President Hoover requesting him to dispatch a battleship to Honolulu and have the convicted prisoners taken into Custody on board ship and transported to the nearest California port that a fair trial might be assured them.

We might be able to extend some bit of sympathy were it not for the knowledge we have of fairness in American Courts. Massie, Mrs. Fortescue, Lord and the other convict received far fairer trials in Honolulu than any we've ever known a Negro to receive in America where the murder of white was involved. Negroes don't have the advantage of a mixed jury in the South. Judge, Jury, and all the lawyers are usually white when they are tried. we only hope that members of an American lynch mob may some times be apprehended and convicted for their lynch law practices.

THE HONOLULU VERDICT.

Cal 5-7-32

If Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, his mother-in-law, Mrs. Grace Hubbard Fortescue, and the two enlisted naval men had been convicted of murdering Joseph Kahahawai, the Hawaiian, by a jury composed entirely or in part of natives or Orientals, there might be justifiable grounds for the claim that those who returned the verdict were influenced by race prejudice and swayed by emotional appeal. But when consideration is given to the very important and significant fact that the presiding judge was white, seven of the jurors were white and five were colored or of mixed blood, it is obvious that the unanimous findings were based on the law and the evidence.

New York
Age

The seven Caucasians, three Chinese, one Portuguese and one Hawaiian, concurred with the sentiments expressed by Clarence Darrow, who, in his summation, said: "I put this case above race and nationality. I ask every one in the jury box to forget anything but the human angle. I would like to think, gentlemen, that I had done a small part in bringing peace and justice to these islands."

It, will be recalled, however, that Mr. Darrow exerted every effort to get as many Caucasians on the jury as possible, and that Prosecutor John C. Kelley was equally as eager to fill the jury box with Hawaiians, Chinese, Japanese and other members of the colored race.

The Negro in the United States has learned a valuable lesson from this trial. It has been vividly brought to his attention that it is to his interest to have representation on the jury whenever he is one of the principals in civil or criminal proceedings. Race prejudice is not rife in the Hawaiian Islands as in the United States. There are times, especially in some sections of this country, when a Negro defendant, appearing in court where the judge, jury and counsel are all white, has fought a losing fight before his case is called for trial. Racial representation on juries should be an insistent demand made by the race in the North, East, South and West.

Lieut. Massie's plea of insanity was a flimsy, shallow excuse which did not carry weight with the jury. If those who kill, assualt and steal are to be permitted to go scott free and unpunished because they set up a defense of having been out of their minds when they committed the crime, the administration of justice soon would become a farce and a delusion.

The verdict convicting the four white Americans of manslaughter will tend to increase the growing hostility between citizens and service men stationed in Honolulu. Three admirals of the U. S. Navy—Pratt. Sterling and Pettingill—directly following the murder of Kahahawai and the arrest of the quartet, upheld the actions of Lieut. Massie, charged that white women were not safe on the Islands and made such sensational reports of conditions that a representative of the U. S. Attorney General was sent to conduct a thorough investigation. Not one of the serious allegations was substantiated in the official report recently submitted to the U. S. Senate.

The records prove conclusively that our marines and sailors usually create friction and stir up bad feeling with civic authorities and civilians whenever stationed in or near a town. Often forgetting they are paid servants of the people, they assume an insolent and overbearing attitude and act upon the erroneous assumption that they are the law. In Honolulu on more than one occasion they have taken the law into their own hands with inevitable disagreeable results.

Unidentified sailors took the law into their own hands when they kidnapped and beat natives charged with raping Mrs. Massie in their effort to get a confession.

Lieut. Massie took the law into his own hands when he, the two enlisted men and Mrs. Fortescue put Kahahawai to death and were caught carrying the dead body, hidden in an automobile, to a watery grave.

Mrs. Thalia Massie showed her contempt for the law when she snatched from the hands of Prosecutor Kelley a damaging piece of evidence and tore it into pieces while on the witness stand.

Atmore, Ala., Advance
Thursday, April 28, 1932

The Honor of Women

"The honor of American womanhood is now in the hands of a jury in Honolulu," says The Chicago Herald and Examiner during the trial of the four defendants, accused of lynching the Hawaiian for his alleged attack upon the wife of a naval officer.

The Chicago newspaper says the case is of particular interest "because it involves the question of the safety for decent women not only in that garden spot of the Pacific, but wherever the white and other races are brought into contact."

Frankly this Hearst newspaper argues for an acquittal if the jury believes that Kahahawai was the ringleader of the gang that perpetrated the brutal and indecent assault upon a white American woman. Brushing aside all other questions as secondary and subordinate the editor says the "real case" is the "cause" of the killing and "not the killing itself."

In other words, if Kahahawai was guilty of the crime charged against him, he got what he deserved, and it "was natural that the husband and the mother of the outraged woman should take the law in their hands and thereby vindicate the sanctity of womanhood."

We have heard the doctrine before. While it conflicts with some "law and order" talk it continues to have behind it the elemental force of nature and will continue to be asserted under similar circumstances however much one praises the "sanctity of the law."

Woman Sought For Attack Trial

Advertiser

Mrs. Massie Subpoenaed By Honolulu Prosecutor To Remain As Witness

5-8-32

HONOLULU, May 7.—(AP)—Mrs. Thalia Massie, who is reported suffering from a nervous breakdown, was sought unsuccessfully today by police who held a subpoena demanding her presence May 25 at the retrial of four Hawaiians charged with assaulting her.

Mrs. Massie had planned to sail tomorrow for the mainland with her husband, Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, who, with her mother, Mrs. Granville Fortescue and two enlisted men, were convicted of manslaughter for the slaying of Joseph Kahahawai, one of her alleged attackers.

The failure of the police attempt to locate Mrs. Massie left her contemplated departure in doubt.

Two policemen took the subpoena to Pearl Harbor after the public prosecutor, John C. Kelley, had been assured naval authorities would permit its service. The navy yard is a Government reservation.

Montgomery

But they never saw the woman they sought, although they returned to the city with the assurance of naval authorities that they would be notified as soon as Mrs. Massie could be found.

The police officers said they went to the old ship Alton, which was "jail" for Lieut. Massie, Mrs. Fortescue, and the two sailors from the time Kahahawai was killed until they served one hour in custody this week on conviction of manslaughter.

Aboard the ship they found Lieut. Massie and Mrs. Fortescue, but not Mrs. Massie. Both the officer and his mother-in-law told the police they did not know the whereabouts of Mrs. Massie. The policemen reported officers on the ship also said they did not know where she had gone.

Rear Admiral Yates Stirling instructed Capt. F. J. Horne, his chief of staff, to conduct a search and advised the process servers they would be notified of the result.

Since all the Massie-Fortescue party had planned to sail tomorrow on the liner Malolo, friends of the family were of the opinion that Mrs. Massie would be aboard the big white liner when it clears the harbor and heads for San Francisco.

Officials considered Mrs. Massie had no intention of remaining here for the retrial of her alleged attackers—the first trial having ended with the jury deadlocked on the question of guilt or innocence—and had balked the efforts of the Territory to keep her from leaving with her husband and family.

Efforts to reach Clarence Darrow or George Leisure, defense attorneys, were unavailing. Mrs. Darrow said they had gone to the country. She said she did not believe Mrs. Massie's illness was serious. It was understood Mrs. Massie was with friends.

Petitions asking Gov. Judd to pardon the slayers of Kahahawai flowed to the Governor's office.

Mrs. Harry Kleugel, chairman of the Citizens Organization for Good Government, which is sponsoring the petitions, said 1,781 persons had signed so far. Examination of the signatures revealed more than 50 per cent were those of caucasians. Few Hawaiians signed.

E. J. Lord and Albert O. Jones, the two enlisted men convicted with Lieut. Massie and Mrs. Fortescue, left today aboard destroyers bound for San Francisco.

MRS. MASSIE FIRM ON SUNDAY SAILING

Constitution

Question of Retrial Testimony in Attack Cases Still in Doubt.

5-7-32

HONOLULU, May 6.—(AP)—Whether Mrs. Thalia Massie would leave Hawaii or remain for the retrial of the four men still facing charges of attacking her remained in doubt tonight. Clarence Darrow, attorney, insisted she had agreed to stay, but Mrs. Massie was equally firm in her declaration that she was sailing homeward Sunday.

Atlanta Ga.

Mrs. Massie was asked by Public Prosecutor John C. Kelley today to remain in Hawaii to appear as a prosecution witness.

The request was made in a statement issued after Clarence Darrow had sent a formal petition to Governor Lawrence M. Judd for a pardon for the four persons who received commutation of their manslaughter sentences for the lynching of Joseph Kahahawai, fifth native named in the attack case.

Darrow said he would not press the plea before the governor, but expressed confidence a pardon would be granted to the quartet.

The prosecutor's statement did not indicate whether any attempt would be made to force Mrs. Massie to testify a second time.

Kelley would not comment on the pardon application or the commutation.

Lieutenant and Mrs. Massie, Mrs. Fortescue, Mr. and Mrs. Darrow and George S. Leisure, associate of Darrow, had announced plans for sailing Sunday for San Francisco. Jones and Lord have been ordered to leave Saturday for duty with submarines at San Diego.

Lynchings - 1932

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Island Trial Will Make For Better Understanding

Memphis Commercial Appeal 4/18/32

Elements of Population Have Never Been of Common Mind, Socialogist Says as Massie Suddenly Becomes Central Figure.

(Dr. Robert E. Park, nationally known sociologist of the University of Chicago, in the following article gives his impressions of the dramatic "honor slaying" trial. The doctor is attached to the University of Hawaii for a year to study the race problems resulting from Honolulu's famous "human melting pot.")

BY ROBERT E. PARK.

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HONOLULU, April 17.—I think the thing that interested me most in the proceedings in the courtroom yesterday was the polyglot audience that assembled to hear the gripping testimony of Lieut. Thomas H. Massie.

As far as I could see, they represented all the elements in Honolulu's population, Chinese, Japanese, Koreans, Hawaiians and mixed bloods—mixed bloods about whom so much has been made in the accounts of the trial.

One of the most conspicuous and imposing figures in court was John C. Lane, the former high sheriff, a man of mixed blood and active in Hawaiian politics.

I was interested in this audience because, during the months that I have been here, I have listened to talk and gossip and I know how the people have come to feel about this case and about the crime that was the occasion of it.

All Have Theories.

They all feel deeply and they all have their different theories. To most of the people, Lieutenant Massie's testimony was startling. The public had been so interested in the other dramatic aspects of this case that no account was taken of the navy officer, a silent and tense little man with a high forehead and a serious and intensive face.

They had not, and perhaps still do not, believe that he fired the fatal shot. In any case, they had very little conception of how high strung a man with his Kentucky background was likely to become under such circumstances. Up to Thursday, this man who has become the central figure in this mid-Pacific drama, had remained mostly in the background.

One needs to understand the complexities of communal life here. There is, to be sure, a large Oriental as well as Hawaiian population, but cleavages do not run altogether along racial lines.

There are three different worlds represented in the Hawaiian Islands: There are the plantations, operated at present with Filipino labor. There are the army and navy, with a personnel of close upon 20,000. Finally, there are the missionaries and their descendants—the original Haoles who give tone to society in the islands as a whole.

Fail to Understand.

All these different elements meet in Honolulu. They met and touch, but do not understand one another. But they will understand one another better after this trial is over.

Up to this point Lieutenant Massie had been known to most people merely as a representative of the navy. Now they know him, not as a symbol, but as a fellow human being.

I found that neither Lieutenant Massie, Mrs. Fortescue nor the sailors, Lord and Jones, really conformed to the stereotypes which I had constructed of them in my own mind on the basis of newspaper reports and newspaper illustrations.

In the courtroom, they all looked very human and touching representatives of our ordinary humanity.

My guess is that the thing Clarence Darrow plans is to give Lieutenant Massie and Mrs. Fortescue the opportunity to tell their stories to the world and to get, in this way, whatever understanding and respect they are entitled to under the circumstances.

Whatever else may be the outcome of this trial, I think this much will be achieved. And this is, I suspent, all the defendants in this case hope for or desire.

Honolulu, Hawaii

3753

Four Guilty Of Manslaughter In Hawaiian Trial

Advertiser

American Society Leader, Her Son-In-Law, And 2 Enlisted Men Convicted

4-30-32

Leniency Is Urged

Montgomery Adv.

Mrs. Thalia Massie Sobs At Verdict; Police Stand Guard In Courtroom

By WILLIAM H. EWING

Associated Press Staff Correspondent

HONOLULU, April 29.—(AP)—Twelve men of varied racial origin tonight convicted of manslaughter the four persons accused of lynching Joseph Kahahawai for vengeance. The jury recommended leniency.

The defendants, Lieut. Thomas H. Massie; his mother-in-law, Mrs. Granville Fortescue, and two Navy enlisted men, Albert O. Jones and E. J. Lord, received the verdict with varying reactions.

The verdict left various possibilities for the length and manner of punishment. The maximum penalty is 10 years imprisonment. The lightest sentence possible would be a 10-year suspended sentence for each. But the court can use discretion between these extremes. The Governor of the Territory has the power to pardon any or all the defendants.

Comment from Clarence Darrow, aged leader of the defense, was terse:

"I am very much disappointed," was all he would say.

A sob broke the tense silence when Mrs. Thalia Massie, wife of the naval officer and victim of a criminal attack in which Kahahawai allegedly confessed partaking, heard the verdict which may mean 10 years imprisonment for her husband, the admitted killer; her aristocratic mother, and the two Navy "gobs."

For 48 hours the stangely constituted jury labored on the case. Then it was suddenly called into court by the presiding jurist, Circuit Judge Charles S. Davis.

Its foreman, John Stone, American, reported there were prospects of reaching a decision "within a reasonable time" and the judge sent it back to work.

Police Rushed In

A few minutes later word spread that a verdict had been reached. Every available policeman was rushed to the judiciary building, from which Kahahawai was abducted last Jan. 8 and where the long trial had been held.

Packed with police, the building looked like a garrison as the defendants filed in to hear their fate.

Mrs. Fortescue was the first to arrive. She looked haggard. She was accompanied by her sister and brother, Mrs. Helen Ripley and Robert Bell. Then came Massie, Lord and Jones.

For the first time Lord appeared nervous. A policeman stopped him at the door and made him throw away a cigaret.

The jury, composed of five Americans, three Chinese, a Dane, a German, a Portuguese and an Hawaiian, filed in.

The tension was even greater than it had been in the many dramatic climaxes of the long trial.

Solemnly Judge Davis asked:

"Gentlemen of the jury, have you reached a verdict?"

Jury Reports

"Yes, your honor," said John Stone, American and foreman, rising. He handed four sheets of paper, containing a verdict for each defendant, to the clerk, Monor Wond, who in turn passed them to the judge.

Massie leaned forward, breathing heavily. Judge Davis handed Wond the papers and asked him to read them. Nervously he read:

"We, the jury, find the defendant Thomas H. Massie guilty of manslaughter. Leniency recommended."

There was a loud sob from Mrs. Massie, interrupting the clerk and she wept bitterly. Her convicted husband tried to comfort her by placing his hand on her shoulder while he was standing. She was seated.

Advertiser

The next verdict, the same as for Massie, applied to Mrs. Fortescue. She did not flinch, but turned and spoke to Jones, who stood beside her. In rapid order the clerk then read the verdicts applying to the two enlisted men. Neither Lord nor Jones showed emotion.

Notice Of Appeal

As Wond finished, Montgomery Winn, of the defense, arose and gave notice of appeal. Judge Davis announced the defendants would be placed in custody of Capt. Ward Wortman, a naval officer, and that sentence would be pronounced a week from today.

The climax of the long drama-charged case was over quickly, requiring only about 10 minutes.

4-30-32

As the defendants walked out Mrs. Massie still was sobbing. Massie's lips were white and set. Mrs. Fortescue's countenance was blanched, but her eyes were dry and there was an air of defiance in her manner. Lord and Jones smiled at friends who spoke to them.

Rear Admiral Yates Stirling, commandant of this naval district, came into the courtroom late. He was at Pearl Harbor when the jury reached its decision and raced six miles into the city in an automobile. Asked if he had any comment he said:

"Not a [illegible] thing."

Montgomery Adv.

Clarence Darrow, aged defense attorney who came out of retirement to plead the cause of the four accused, did not arise and took no part in any of the final proceedings. When it was over he took out his glasses, put them on and opened a law book.

Darrow's associate, Charles S. Leisure, said that on the appeal the case would go to the Territorial Supreme Court and then to the Ninth District United States' Circuit Court of Appeals in California, if necessary.

Thus did the aged defender's double plea of insanity on the part of Massie and his reference to the unwritten law phases of the case come to naught.

And likewise came victory for John C. Kelley, young Irish lawyer, who was named public prosecutor for Honolulu in the political shakeup which followed the lynching.

Dudley Field Malone Urges Prompt Action

NEW YORK, April 29—(AP)—Dudley Field Malone, attorney who at first considered going to Honolulu with Clarence Darrow, tonight was informed of the Massie case verdict and immediately wired President Hoover urging that the four defendants be "placed aboard a warship and brought to the first port of jurisdiction on the mainland, namely San Francisco."

His telegram read:

"To the President:

"I most respectfully submit that you do now what you should have done at the beginning, namely: order Lt. Massie, his wife, his mother-in-law and the two enlisted men on board a warship and bring them to the first port of jurisdiction on the mainland namely San Francisco where they can get a fair trial and the protection American citizens should be properly entitled to.

"DUDLEY FIELD MALONE"

Mother Of Lieut. Massie Breaks Down At Verdict

WINCHESTER, KY., April 29—(AP)—"Convicted of manslaughter—what does that mean?"

That was the only statement made by Mrs. W. S. Massie, of Winchester, when informed tonight that her son, Lieut. Thomas Massie, 24, and his co-defendants in the Honolulu lynching case, had been found guilty of manslaughter.

Mrs. Massie and her daughter, Dorothy Massie, were together when informed of the verdict. They expressed surprise, not having expected a verdict tonight. They said they had been confident of an acquittal. Mrs. Massie said she had made no plans to go to her son and did not know just what she would do.

The naval officer's mother broke down and sobbed later.

MRS. MASSIE'S AID PLEDGED TO STATE IN ASSAULT TRIAL

Constitution

5-2-32

Atlanta, Ga.

Lieutenant's Wife Will Testify at Retrial Despite Conviction of Husband and Mother.

HONOLULU, May 1.—(AP)—Robert Bell, of New York, gave assurance today that Mrs. Thalia Massie, his niece and the wife of the convicted "honor" slayer of Joseph Kahahawai, will testify at the retrial of four Hawaiians charged with assaulting her last September 12.

Bell is the brother of Mrs. Granville Fortescue, who with her son-in-law, Lieutenant Thomas H. Massie, U. S. N., and two naval enlisted men, was convicted Friday of killing Kahahawai in revenge for the attack.

It had been reported that Mrs. Massie, because of the attitude of John C. Kelley, prosecutor who obtained the convictions, would resist reappearing in the assault case.

Bell said today, however, Mrs. Massie would undergo the ordeal again. The first trial of the case resulted in a divided jury.

During the first trial, which began November 18 and lasted three weeks, Mrs. Massie's name was witthheld by all Hawaiian newspapers except a Honolulu Japanese daily, which carried the story in full in both its English and Japanese sections.

Under Guard.

The alleged assailants of Mrs. Massie, who have been free under bond, spent part of the time in jail for safekeeping and, since Friday's verdict, have remained out of sight in their homes under police protection.

A conference will be held tomorrow between representatives of the attorney general's office and the public prosecutor to fix a date for the beginning of the new trial. Deputy Attorney General Harold Kay said it might start within a fortnight.

The conference also was expected to determine whether Kelley, who obtained Friday's convictions by his vigorous prosecution, would conduct the territory's case in the assault retrial. Kelley declined today to say whether he would handle the retrial.

Navy officials held that Kelley's conduct in the murder cases should remove him from the prosecution of the four Hawaiians.

Kay said new evidence has been found since the jury failed to agree. He said the territory has an "infinitely stronger" case than during the former trial.

Sentiment concerning the assault trial, as well as the murder hearing, is widely varied. It ranges from the feeling of those who with an eye on official Washington, urge a conviction to offset mainland criticism of the Fortescue verdict, to those who express the belief a conviction would reflect on the justice of a verdict of guilty in the murder trial.

Defendants "Bear Up."

Meanwhile, the defendants, though shocked, are "bearing up under it wonderfully well," Bell said. "We all were tremendously surprised. We didn't see how there could be a conviction."

Bell and his sister, Mrs. Helen Ripley, represented the defendants at a conference of attorneys after the verdict Friday. A long meeting was held at Pearl Harbor, attended by Clarence Darrow, chief of defense counsel, and Charles S. Leisure, his associate, principally, it was said, to reassure the defendants.

Montgomery Winn, assistant defense counsel, said today there was little to do now except wait until sentence is pronounced Friday, after which a motion for a new trial will be filed. Winn said the motion for a new trial will not be argued Friday, but at a later date to be fixed by Judge Charles S. Davis, who heard the case.

Darrow, who appeared almost numbed by the shock of the verdict, seemed in better spirits today and planned a motor car ride with friends.

Honolulu spent a quiet Saturday night, and the lack of activity was accentuated by a heavy rain which fell nearly all night. Patrol cars maintained steady beats without incident.

OWEN DESCRIBES COURTROOM SCENE

Constitution

4-30-32

Atlanta, Ga.

Famous Reporter Says Verdict Crushed All Interested in Sensational Case.

BY RUSSELL OWEN.

(Copyright, 1932, by the North American Newspaper Alliance, Inc.)

HONOLULU, April 29.—All four defendants in the killing of Joseph Kahahawai—Mrs. Granville Fortescue, her son-in-law, Lieutenant Thomas H. Massie, and the two navy enlisted men, E. J. Lord and A. O. Jones—were found guilty of manslaughter late this afternoon.

The verdict came as a distinct surprise and was a shock to the defense. Clarence Darrow, chief defense counsel, announced immediately after the verdict that an appeal would be taken to the supreme court and then to the ninth circuit court, if necessary.

The verdict came soon after Judge Charles S. Davis had called in the jurors to ask them if they could agree—so soon that for a time the public prosecutor, John C. Kelley, could not be found. The first man to appear was Mr. Darrow, who evidently was nervous and worried, although he smiled. He had put his whole heart into the case and given all his strength.

Next came Mrs. Fortescue with Mrs. Thalia Massie, who, for the first time in the court, wore a light blue dress with a white hat, her dress on the other days having been dark and somber. Some little time before, Lieutenant Massie, Jones and Lord appeared and just after they arrived the jury came in looking as expressionless as usual.

Constitution

Then there was a wait until Mr. Kelley arrived, a wait which became one of strained silence, for the spectators didn't chatter as usual. So painful was this period that while the jury tried not to look at the defendants, those awaiting the verdict anxiously scanned the faces of the men in the box. Mrs. Massie put her arm into her husband's and clung tightly to him.

4-30-32

Finally, Mr. Kelley appeared, just as Judge Davis looked out from his chambers on the side to see if everyone were ready.

When the judge took the bench he looked at the jury and said:

"Gentlemen, have you arrived upon a verdict?"

Atlanta, Ga.

The defendants were standing and for a moment Mrs. Massie stood beside her husband as if she, too, were charged with the crime and meant to take part in the proceedings, although she probably was just dazed and hardly knew what she was doing. A bailiff standing by Lieutenant Massie motioned her to sit down, which she did reluctantly.

The form sheets on which the verdict was written were taken from John Stone, foreman of the jury, by a clerk and handed to the judge who read them through quickly and then gave them to the clerk to read. The clerk's voice was trembling with nervousness and his hands shook as he read the first one:

"Thomas H. Massie, guilty of manslaughter, leniency recommended."

Mrs. Massie Sobs.

There were great sobs as Mrs. Massie reached out and clung desperately to her husband, who leaned over with his jaw working and patted her on the shoulder. But when he looked up again at the jury he smiled faintly and lifted his shoulders. There was not a quiver in his body.

Next the clerk read:

"Grace Fortescue, guilty of manslaughter, leniency recommended."

Mrs. Fortescue half smiled and lifted her chin defiantly, not a movement of her eyes or lips portraying any emotion. She was much more self-contained than she often had been through the trial.

Albert O. Jones and Edward J. Lord, the two enlisted men, then were found guilty, with recommendations for leniency. Jones was red, but Lord half shrugged his shoulders.

Mrs. Massie's sobs became half hysterical and then she calmed a little as her husband leaned over and said:

"Don't cry, darling."

It was the only sound in the courtroom and many spectators were visibly affected and weeping with her. Even some of the jurors seemed affected. The wives of several navy men broke into muffled but furious exclamations and the way the navy felt was made obvious a few moments later.

Darrow Depressed.

Mr. Darrow seemed quite depressed by the verdict. His whole huge frame was sunk into itself as he slid down on a chair, and his chin fell toward his chest. George Leisure, his associate, was equally downcast and sat with a stern look on his face.

The matter of sentence was discussed, and Judge Davis fixed a week from today at 9 o'clock in the morning for the sentence. Then came the question of custody until that time and nobody seemed quite to know what were the terms of agreement between the territory and the navy regarding custody. Finally, Barry S. Ulrich, assistant prosecutor who had charge of the case in the beginning, said he recalled that the agreement was for custody by the navy until the end of the case. Mr. Kelley, who became prosecutor after the agreement, said if there were a navy officer present who would be responsible for the defendants and produce them in court, he would make no objection.

At this point, Captain Ward Wortman, commander of the submarine base, rose and said, hesitatingly, his voice half audible and shaking:

"I was put in charge till released by the court."

Captain Wortman then turned to Mr. Kelley and cried, angrily:

"I don't see why Kelley doesn't know that and why Ulrich doesn't know that."

Kelley is Angry.

Mr. Kelley turned and glared at him.

"I don't know it," he said, and Captain Wortman called back:

"You know damn little."

Judge Davis looked reprovingly but did not say anything, allowing, as he has all along, for the strained feelings on both sides. Then he excused the jury and the jurors left the building gladly. The defendants followed, Mrs. Massie weeping bitterly with her arm around her husband's shoulder. It was said later that the delay in finding a verdict was due to a desire on the part of some members of the jury to let Mrs. Forescue and Lord off.

Mr. Darrow said after the verdict that he was disappointed, and all Mr. Kelley would say was that the verdict was just.

Judge Davis first sent for the attorneys on both sides in the case at 3:40 p. m., and also for the four defendants, with the intention of calling in the jury and making an effort to ascertain if there was a possibility of a verdict.

The jury came into the court about 4 o'clock. John Stone, jury foreman, carried some verdict forms in one hand. When the jude inquired who was the foreman, Stone rose and said: "I am."

"Have you agreed on a verdict?" said the judge.

"No," Stone answered.

"Is there any prospect of your reaching a verdict in a reasonable time?" asked the judge.

Stone hesitated a moment, looking at the floor, and then lifted his head and said slowly. "Yes, I think there is."

"May I explain the situation?" Stone went on.

"No," said Judge Davis.

The judge then asked if there was anything he could do to help them arrive at a decision, with evidence or other aid, but Stone said there had been no request for additional evidence. Judge Davis sat, with lips compressed, in thought for a few moments, and then told the jurors they could resume their deliberations. After they left the box the defendants filed out to return to their hotel.

Mrs. Massie Will Remain In Honolulu And Testify Against Alleged Attackers

Constitution

5-2-32

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Honclulu spent a quiet Saturday night, and the lack of activity was accentuated by a heavy rain which fell nearly all night. Patrol cars maintained steady beats without incident.

Several undercover reprisals were underway today as a result of the murder trial. Among them was a boycott by a group of white women of business places employing men who served on the jury. It was learned, too, that many service people said they would buy hereafter exclusively from the Army and Navy commissaries.

Commisary sales have risen quickly since the trial.

The trial of Joseph Young, 22-year-old Korean charged with assaulting a 17-year-old Chinese girl early in March, will begin here tomorrow in Judge Albert M. Christy's court.

During and since the Kahahawai murder trial, Kelly said he had received a number of threats, none of which he regarded seriously. Police, however, were maintaining a night guard at his home.

Lynchings-1932

Honolulu, Hawaii.

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

DARROW PLEADS FOR PARDON FOR 'HONOR SLAYERS'

Chicago Tribune

Kelley Opposes Departure of Mrs. Massie.

5/7/32

BY CLIFFORD GESSLER.

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

HONOLULU, May 6.—Clarence Darrow, chief of defense counsel, today sent a formal petition to Gov. Lawrence M. Judd asking a pardon for Mrs. Granville Fortescue and the three naval men convicted of manslaughter in the slaying of Joseph Kahahawai. The petition was tendered the governor by Lieut. H. C. C. Johnson of the navy, who assisted Attorney Darrow in defending the group.

LAWRENCE M. JUDD.
[Harris & Ewing Photo.]

The petition said:

"We do respectfully pray that your excellency do grant full and unconditional pardon of the crime and offense charged and the sentence pronounced heretofore commuted and served."

Wants Citizenship Restored.

Attorney Darrow, who said he believed the pardon would be granted, appealed to the governor in order that full citizenship, deprived by the commutation of sentence, be restored to Mrs. Fortescue, Lieut. Thomas H Massie and the two sailors, E. J. Lord and Albert O. Jones.

Although Gov. Judd is expected to act on the pardon petition tomorrow, it appeared that Lieut. Massie, his wife, Thalia, and Mrs. Fortescue may be forced to sail for the mainland on Sunday without the governor's action on the plea. The governor retired to his country home at Kawailoa today. It is located on the other side of Oahu island and is difficult to reach.

According to friends closely in touch with the Massies, they are undecided whether to leave Honolulu on Sunday. The sailors, Lord and Jones will sail tomorrow for the San Diego Cal., submarine base aboard a destroyer.

Demands Mrs. Massie Remain.

Special Prosecutor John C. Kelley today asked Mrs. Massie to remain in Hawaii to appear as the prosecution witness at the retrial of the four surviving youths accused of her rape. His request was made in a statement after Darrow had filed his petition for a pardon. Kelley did not indicate whether any attempt would be made to force her to testify a second time against the natives. The first trial resulted in a jury disagreement.

"I am opposed to Mrs. Massie leaving the territory of Hawaii at this time," the prosecutor said. "The Ala Moana assault case should be retried at once. Mrs. Massie's departure will render retrial of that case futile. I believe that out of respect for herself, her family and her country she should remain and face the ordeal, however painful. The territory of Hawaii and the rest of the United States demands this be done."

Kelley's statement was made after Mrs. Massie had announced that she had sent a letter to the prosecutor asking him to inform her of any plans involving her remaining in Honolulu.

Mrs. Massie Awaits Reply.

"I am awaiting Mr. Kelley's reply to my letter," she said. "I have never had any word from him about the retrial and I simply wish to hear from him officially before leaving."

Naval officials today denied that there was any organized movement to boycott Honolulu merchants, but privately it is well known that such a move is being made. It is not unanimous as many wives of naval men employed in Honolulu business houses have no sympathy with such a boycott.

NEW YORK HERALD-TRIBUNE

MAY 5 1932

The Honolulu Trial

This Correspondent Would Draw a Lynching Parallel

To the New York Herald Tribune:

Often during the last fifteen years I have read with complete agreement your strong editorials condemning lynching. I recall that you have pointed out with the trenchant clarity of which your editorial writers are capable that delays in the course of justice or even apparent miscarriages of justice are no excuse for mob rule. You have bitterly assailed Southern courts for their failure to prosecute mob leaders who have kidnaped and killed men of another race awaiting trial for sexual crimes.

Feeling secure in your love of justice, I looked forward to your editorial on the Honolulu trial and was bitterly disappointed on Sunday to find a half column of sentimental ingenuity. It is perhaps to be expected that Congressmen from Alabama, Georgia, Texas and the other strongholds of chivalry would shudder with horror at this affront to American womanhood.

Do you sincerely believe that for the members of the jury to have justified a verdict of innocent by a pretended belief in the defense of insanity would have been just, honest and courageous? Murder and manslaughter are serious crimes, whether committed in America or in Honolulu, and I believe that the impartial administration of justice should be held in too high esteem by the press of America to allow expressions or feelings of sympathy for a fellow officer and gentleman to temper its opinion or color its logic.

STANLEY K. OLDDEN.

New York, May 3, 1932.

~~Mrs.~~ Massie, Aunt To Fly to New York

Constitution

5-13-32

SAN FRANCISCO, May 12.—(AP)—Mrs. Thomas H. Massie and her aunt, Mrs. Julian Ripley, plan to leave by airplane for New York following arrival here tomorrow of the Matson liner Malolo, on which the recent Hawaiian trial principals are passengers, a radio message revealed tonight.

Atlanta Ga.

It was also learned Mrs. Massie, her husband, Lieutenant Massie, Mrs. Granville Fortescue, her mother, and other members of the party would be taken from the liner by a navy launch which will put them ashore before the ship docks.

Clarence Darrow, noted attorney, who directed the defense of the naval officer and Mrs. Fortescue at their trial for the slaying of Joseph [illegible]hawai, will arrive with the party.

MASSIE JURY WAS LENIENT, BELIEF

Courier 5-7-32

Pittsburgh Pa.

(Editor's Note—In view of the criticism in the American white press following the conviction of the "honor slayers" of Kahahawai, The Courier is glad to give to its readers again the "other side" of the story. It is in accord with our contention that "lynching" is not justifiable under any circumstances. The following story from Honolulu written by John C. Kelley, prosecutor in the "Honor slaying" case, is published with the permission of the International News Service, who secured the article.)

By JOHN C. KELLEY
Prosecutor In Massie Case

HONOLULU, T. H., May 5—I am amazed at the criticism from the mainland over the outcome of the Fortescue-Massie murder trial.

As a matter of fact, the jury was more than lenient, in my opinion, in returning verdicts of manslaughter and recommending clemency.

I stand for the law as opposed to those who violated it.

We presented to the jury only the facts in this case, and those facts lead to the unrefuted evidence that the defendants killed Joseph Kahahawai. The same presumption of innocence that clothed the defendants at the outset of the trial clothes Kahahawai way down deep in his grave.

We do not settle problems of justice in Hawaii on racial lines and members of the jury, I am satisfied reached their conclusions by honest convictions and a fair balancing of the law and of the evidence.

It should be understood that the defense arguments to the jury were based on passion and not on reason and on sympathy, not on insanity.

I did only my sworn duty as the public prosecutor in presenting this case.

THE MASSIE MESS

[illegible]

5-7-32

[illegible]

Once again the United States has gone on record as sponsoring white supremacy. Even justice and the dignity of the courts must be subordinated to the much vaunted superiority of the American white man over his darker brothers. Again has the United States demonstrated that the darker races have no rights which the American white man is bound to respect not baring even the right to live.

The Massie trial was a farce. There has never been any doubt as to the outcome unless that doubt existed in the minds of some of the natives who were hoodwinked into believing that the dignity of the law would be upheld. Theirs, heretofore, has not, in all probability been the experience of the American Negro, who has long since learned that he need expect neither mercy nor justice in the courts when a white man is on the opposing side. The sentencing of Massie and his gang deceived nobody, not even the jury which rendered the verdict. The securing of Clarence Darrow as defense counsel was merely a gesture. The case would have, in all probability, been disposed of in the same way had there been no attorney representing the defendants at all. Their color was their lawyer, and the potency of its plea is best attested by the fact that, though by their own admissions they were guilty of the basest of murders, they served only one hour in the custody of the law, and that hour was spent in a palace.

Proven beyond the semblance of a doubt as kidnapers and murderers, Lieutenant Massie and his accomplices are today being heralded as heroes and protectors of WHITE womanhood. Nor has it been established that the victim of their hasty action was the perpetrator of the alleged assault upon Mrs. Massie. It is even being questioned in some quarters sa to whether the affair really attained the status of an assault. There are some rumors being circulated in the island that would tend toward a different aspect of the whole matter than that which has been forced down the throats of the public. However much truth there is in the rumors we are inclined to believe that the situation would not appear in the most favorable light under the closest scrutiny.

Frankly, we were not surprised at the action taken by the United States when we learned who the principals were. That case was no different from thousands of similar ones in this country today when the case is white vs. black.

We hate to think what would have happened had the situation been reversed. Not only in the islands which have been the playground of America's wealthy and idle white men and women for many years, is there a laxity of morals and a disregard of womanhood, so far as the native women are concerned, but the same obtains to an equally great degree right here in our own America. Nothing has been done to check or even condemn this practice of American whites. But now the shoe is on the other foot. A dark man has dared to touch a white woman and the whole country is outraged. Letters of condemnation of the alleged crime of the Hawaiian and of commnedation of the established crime of the Americans have poured into government officials. Petitions have been filed, indignation meetings have been held and threats made; alll because a member of the darker races has presumed to retaliate in kind for the indignities his women have been forced to submit to for decades and decades. Yes, the shoe is on the other foot — and it hurts!

We cannot say with exactness just what the reaction of the darker nations will be to the handling of the "Massie Mess," but we venture the opinion that it will hardly serve to endear America and white Americans to the darker nations of the world. The clouds have been gathering for a long time. Who knows but what this most recent exhibition of justice juggling will precipitate the storm.

CHARLESTON, W. VA.
MAIL

MAY 2 1932

LYNCHING CASE PUT BEFORE HIGH COURT

Ask $5,000 in Negro's Death; Four Reviews Refused, One is Granted

The suit to collect $5,000 from the Greenbrier county court because of the lynching of George Banks, a Negro, in that county on December 10, 1931, was docketed Monday by the state supreme court.

The suit is styled Thelma Mullens, administrator of the estate of George Banks, against the Greenbrier county court. It had been filed in the Kanawha county circuit court, which sustained a plea that it was without jurisdiction in the case and certified the question. The payment of $5,000 by a county court as compensation for the lynching of any person in the county in mandatory under state law.

One review allowed and petitions for four others were refused Monday by the court. The review granted was in the case of the state at the relation of the Fayette Wholesale Grocery company against R. J. Mors and the United States Fidelity and Guarantee company, petitioner, Kanawha county. The lower court had awarded judgment of $1,743 against the fidelity company in a suit to collect for groceries purchased by Mors, receiver for the defunct Illini Coal company.

Reviews refused were in the cases of:

Gilmer county—Robert Minney against Floyd Furr, petitioner. The lower court had awarded $1,000 to the plaintiff who sued to collect on a sale of real estate.

Greenbrier county—Mrs. Lena McCormick, petitioner, against John K. Kirtley. This involves the settlement of the estate of J. C. Schulz.

Greenbrier county—E. S. Ford, petitioner, against C. B. Allen and others. This is a chancery suit to enforce a mechanic's lien.

MsDowell county—J. Howard Anderson, petitioner, against Moses Hyman and Sam Polan. A verdict of $30,000 had been returned by the lower court against Hyman in the suit filed by Anderson to collect funds lent the two defendants as partners and the evidence as to Polan was struck out.

Temporary Jury Selected To Try Four Americans

Advertiser

4-6-32.

Montgomery, Ala.

One Venireman Admits Having Said Defendants 'Ought To Be Shot'

Defense Indicated

Plea Of Justification Seen When Darrow Protests Question By Prosecutor

HONOLULU, April 5.—(AP)— Strong fixed opinions of prospective jurors, one of whom expressed the belief the defendants "ought to be shot," impeded selection of a jury today to try Mrs. Granville Fortescue and three Navy men, accused of lynching Joseph Kahahawai, a native.

When the second day of the trial of Mrs. Fortescue, Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, her son-in-law, and two enlisted men ended, six Anglo-Saxons, three Chinese, one Japanese, one Hawaiian and one Portuguese had been temporarily accepted for service.

The expression of feeling against Massie, Mrs. Fortescue and their co-defendants, E. J. Lord and Albert O. Jones, came from William Huihui, Hawaiian. Under questioning by Clarence Darrow, noted criminal lawyer and chief defense counsel, he admitted he had said the four "ought to be shot."

Defense Plea Indicated

The day also brought forth the indication the defense would plead the killing of Joseph Kahahawai, accused of attacking Mrs. Thalia Massie, was an honor slaying. Mrs. Massie is the wife of the lieutenant and daughter of Mrs. Fortescue, American society matron.

The jury panel was filled during the morning but only a few of the 24 peremptory challenges allotted each side had been used when court adjourned and a final jury was not in prospect.

Before Huihui's admission, Darrow had vigorously contested the attempt of Barry Ulrich, deputy prosecutor, to impress on prospective jurors not to consider whether the slaying of Kahahawai last Jan. 8 was right or wrong. Kahahawai was once tried for attacking Mrs. Massie last September but the jury disagreed and he was awaiting another trial when killed.

Ulrich asked Shadford Waterhouse, prospective juror, if he would find the defendants guilty whether or not he believed they "had a right to do what they did."

"That isn't the law," Darrow interrupted.

Judge George S. Davis ruled he would settle the question later.

Navy-Native Friction Hinted

Ulrich also by his questioning brought into the case talk of friction between the United States Navy and residents of Hawaii. He asked prospective jurors if they had close friends in the Navy.

Mrs. Fortescue remained reserved today and spoke only to her sister, Mrs. J. L. Ripley of New York, her brother, Robert Bell, and her attorneys.

Massie, however, relaxed somewhat from the strain he was under yesterday at the opening of the trial. He stood in the hall during intermissions and smoked cigarets, as did Jones and Lord.

Dapoikai Lyon, beach boy musician and well known on the islands, was examined, but, upon admitting he knew Kahahawai, was removed by Darrow.

Henry Beckley, Hawaiian youth with whom Darrow had clashed yesterday, also was removed by the aged lawyer. Darrow yesterday had indicated the belief the Hawaiian was anxious to serve on the jury.

The prosecution and defense will continue with their peremptory challenges tomorrow.

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Honolulu, Hawaii.

3653

KENTUCKY GOVERNOR RESTORES MASSIE TO FULL CITIZENSHIP

Chicago Tribune

Frankfort, Ky., [illegible] —(AP)—Lieut. Thomas H. Massie was restored to full citizenship in an order issued here today by Gov. Ruby Laffoon.

6/1/32

LIEUT. THOMAS H. MASSIE.

The naval lieutenant, who with his mother-in-law, Mrs. Granville Fortescue, and two sailors, was convicted last month in Honolulu of manslaughter, is a native of Winchester, Ky. The sentences of the four for the "honor slaying" of a Hawaiian indicted for attacking Mrs. Massie, were commuted to an hour in jail.

The governor's order, issued on the regular form for restoring civil rights, carried a notation saying:

"The question has been raised as to whether by reason of said conviction, said Massie, who is a citizen of the state of Kentucky, lost his civil rights, as such citizen under the laws of this commonwealth, and while it is believed said conviction had no such effect in any respect, yet in order to put the matter beyond all doubt, his civil rights, if they were denied, are restored to him."

Lieut. Massie and his wife have been visiting his mother in Winchester and left for New York shortly after the governor issued the order.

Darrow Home, Pleads Case of Hawaii Before Publin

Chicago Tribune

BY JOHN BOETTIGER.

5/26/32

So much poppycock—the word is Clarence Darrow's—has been circulated about racial conditions in Hawaii that Mr. Darrow felt impelled upon his return to Chicago yesterday to tell something of his observations there.

There is no race problem in the islands, the veteran lawyer said. Law and order prevails there in at least the same degree that it does in American cities, he declared.

Heads Fight for Pardons.

Mr. Darrow also talked of his plans to gain a full pardon for the clients he defended in the celebrated Massie case, and he revealed that he has several avenues of strategy planned. He may petition Gov. Lawrence M. Judd of Hawaii for a pardon restoring the privileges of citizenship to Lieut. Thomas H. Massie; the lieutenant's mother-in-law, Mrs. Granville Fortescue, and the two naval enlisted men, all of whom were tried for the murder of Joseph Kahahawai, the Hawaiian accused of raping Lieut. Massie's wife. It was Gov. Judd, who granted commutations of the sentences imposed upon the four defendants.

Mr. Darrow believes, however, that congress has authority to pass a law granting the same relief, and it may even be possible, the lawyer said, for the governor of Kentucky—the home state of Lieut. Massie—to grant a pardon.

5-26-32

Darrow Defends Hawaii.

But Mr. Darrow, while talking freely of the Massie case, seemed more interested yesterday in righting what he thought was an unjust impression of Hawaii gained by the American people. He said Honolulu is as safe for man or woman as any American city.

"Americans are inclined to put so much emphasis on racial prejudice," Mr. Darrow said. "In Honolulu it just doesn't exist. The judge in the Massie case [Charles S. Davis] is married to a woman half Hawaiian and half Chinese. Many of the leading "whites" in Honolulu have mixed blood, or are married to women of other races.

"Strangers in the island must be wary of expressing opposite opinions on racial matters to white men who live there, for it is quite likely the latter will be related to Hawaiians or members of another race.

Whites Convict Massie.

"The juror who was the very last to give in in signing the Massie guilty verdict was himself half Hawaiian and half Scotch, and he was married to a Hawaiian woman.

"I am telling you these things only to show that there is absolutely no friction between the races in Hawaii."

Any feeling which might exist on the islands is rather a class feeling, Mr. Darrow said. The whites own most of the property and the Hawaiians are the laboring class.

"I should make it plain that there can be no question about the facts shown in the trial of the Massie case," he said. "The rape occurred just as Mrs. Massie described it. But the Massie case should be viewed by the American public as an isolated incident. It doesn't contribute one whit toward a discussion of racial or political conditions, or of law and order in Honolulu."

Admits Navy Views Differ.

Mr. Darrow admitted that he does not reflect the viewpoint of the naval authorities, nor of the naval colony in Hawaii.

"They are fine fellows, but they have a navy point of view," he said. "If everything isn't all right, shoot, or put it under martial law, is their view. Many of them are in favor of putting Hawaii under the control of the army and navy, of taking away the islands' rights, or putting them under direct government by Washington.

"'That's ridiculous. None of the people, whites or natives who live there, want any change in government. I am entirely satisfied that Hawaii should be left alone."

His Citizenship Restored.

Memphis Commercial Appeal

6/3/32

Governor Laffoon, of Kentucky, has acted wisely and properly in restoring full citizenship rights to Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, native son of the Blue Grass commonwealth, who came into international prominence through his participation in the "honor slaying" in Honolulu. Lieutenant Massie lost his citizenship when the mixed jury at Honolulu convicted him of manslaughter for killing the Hawaiian native identified as one of the criminal assailants of the lieutenant's young wife. And he did not secure a restoration of rights through the nominal sentence of one hour, which was served.

It would be a rather cynical reflection upon the sanctity of American citizenship if it could be taken away from a man because he defended the honor of his wife after the courts had refused to do so. Also would it be a glorification of judicial ineffectiveness that was almost criminal. The young Kentuckian will now take an equal place with all other Americans. The tragic incident that caused him, his wife, his relatives and his friends so many heartaches and so much suffering can now be forgotten. The bungling of justice has been righted in so far as it seems now possible to do so.

CHURCH BOARD ASKS OUSTER FOR MASSIE

Amsterdam News

6-1-32

The principle that impartial and equal justice and protection must be afforded all races by both the civil and the armed forces of the nation, was upheld at the semi-annual meeting of the Home Board of the Congregational and Christian Churches here last Wednesday in a resolution strongly protesting against the proposed Congressional pardon for Lieut. P. H. Massie, E. J. Lord and A. O. Jones of the Navy, and for Mrs. G. R. Fortescue.

COMMITTEE TO HEAR MRS. FORTESCUE TODAY

Constitution

WASHINGTON, May 23.—(AP)—Mrs. Granville Fortescue, one of those convicted in the recent trial at Honolulu, is expected to tell the house territories committee tomorrow whether she thinks the islands should be placed under military control.

5-24-32

Others scheduled to testify include her husband, Major Fortescue; General Douglas MacArthur, army chief of staff; Admiral W. V. Pratt, chief of naval operations; Secretary Wilbur, of the interior department, and Floyd Gibbons, war correspondent.

Atlanta Ga.

CONGREGATIONALISTS ACT.

The Home Board of Congregational and Christian Churches, at its annual meeting held in New York, went on record against the granting of a Congressional pardon to Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, E. J. Lord and Albert O. Jones and demanded that they be dismissed from the U. S. Navy. The, resolution follows:

Age 6-4-32

"Whereas, we believe that law, rigorously and impartially enforced, is the only possible foundation of a safe democracy, and that the defense of the honor of women or men, cannot be secured by the substitution of private revenge for the orderly processes of law, we therefore protest against the possible pardoning of an officer of tht navy, Lieut. Massie, and his associates convicted of the crime of manslaughter.

New York N.Y.

"We urge that every power should be exerted to apprehend and convict those who committed the unspeakable crime of assault, and if convicted, that they be brought to adequate punishment. We further urge the immediate dismissal from the navy of those members of the navy who participated in the killing of Kahahawai, the accused Hawaiian, thus rendering themselves unfit to serve this arm of our nation, whose chief function ought to be to uphold and defend the majesty of the law and keep inviolate the integrity of the courts."

The Rev. George Luther Cady of New York, executive secretary of the American Missionary Association, presented the resolution, explaining:

> **"This is not a Hawaiian question. It strikes at the foundations of the institutons of our government. No man has the right to take the law into his own hands and execute it."**

Dr. Clarence H. Wilson, until recently pastor of the Central Union Church, Honolulu, said:

> **"There is no racial issue in the Hawaiian Islands except that which has been made by the antagonisms between the officers of the U. S. Navy and the people of the colored race. It is tragic to have had racial hatred introduced where it did not exist."**

In supporting the resolution Dr. Robert W. Coe, pastor of the Leydon Church, Brookline, Mass., declared:

> **"The question of race relations is a major problem of our times. We must speak in no uncertain terms when principles which should prevail in race relations are flaunted by those whom we expect to uphold the law."**

The sowing of the seeds of race hatred

in the Hawaiian Islands by members of the U. S. Navy is in keeping with their vicious campaign of seeking to spread color prejudice everywhere they go. The United States would enjoy a larger measure of popularity in South and Central America if these countries had never been inflicted with the presence of our sailors and marines, who could not have been more zealous and invidious as emissaries of racial discord had they been paid propagandists.

After so much wild talk in Congress and much wilder editorial expressions in some of the daily newspapers over the Massie case, it is refreshing to read the sentiments of influential citizens who appear in no demagogic role but think and speak clearly and objectively. There are Senators and Representatives at Washington and newspaper editors who believe it is their duty to "uphold the honor and prestige" of the white race by giving Massie, his mother-in-law, Mrs. Forstecue, and the two enlisted men a coat of whitewash and picturing them as heroes.

But right-thinking citizens reason the same as those who voted for the resolution passed by the Home Board of Congregational and Christian Churches: That all the pardons granted by Congress and all of the inspired newspaper articles cannot erase from the records the unvarnished fact that Massie and his partners in crime took the law in their own hands and stand before the world as murderers. The question has been quite properly raised as to their fitness to serve an arm of our nation whose duty it is to uphold the law. Can this be done by the lawless?

A few weeks ago the Methodist Episcopal Church at its thirty-first quadrennial conference, passed a resolution favoring racial equality. Now the Congregational Church serves notice that it is irrevocably opposed to the fomenting of racial antagonisms, the pardoning of Lieut. Massie and his associates convicted of manslaughter.

The church, by assuming an aggressive and uncompromising leadership on vital social questions of the day, should re-

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"I Too, Have to Make a Living," says Darrow, Explaining Part in Massie Case

No Racial Intolerance Permitted to Enter into Arguments: "I am a Criminal Lawyer," says Attorney, "Not a Sentimentalist."

Afro American

By E. W. WILKINS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Leaning comfortably back in one of the lounge chairs in the lobby of the Hotel Muehlebach Monday morning, Clarence Darrow, internationally famous criminal lawyer, made a statement as important to his Negro followers as was the verdict in the Honolulu "honor slaying" case.

5/28/32

I opened our talk by pointing out that many Negroes felt that he had betrayed their interests by accepting the defense of the people accused with Massie in the Hawaiian slaying.

Afro-American

Stipulated own Terms

"Before I took this case," Darrow said. "I sent to my prospective client my argument in the Sweet case so that he would have no misconception of my attitude about race differences. I also stipulated in advance that if the racial angle were to be injected into this case, I would not accept the defense of the accused persons.

"At no time was a racial argument made. My business is that of a criminial lawyer. It would have been just as absurd for me to refuse to accept this case because the dead Hawaiian was a 'colored' man as it would have been for you to refuse your assignment to interview me because I am a white man.

Needs No Defense

"I am not trying to excuse myself to colored people for having participated in this case. Any colored person who reads and know my record is aware that I need neither excuse nor defense.

"After all," and he gave one of his characteristic dry chuckles, everyone else does. In spite of my activity on behalf of Negroes, very little of that income has come from them. Understand—that is not criticism. I have bestirred myself for colored people because I wanted to and have asked little or nothing in return. What they think of me, and this also applies to white and other people, doesn't make a great deal of difference, but I would, of course, appreciate their goodwill."

Shows His Years

Darrow moves slowly and as though he feels sharply the weight of his 75 years. The lines in his face are deeply graven. When we sat down, he sank into his seat with the obvious gesture of a person needing rest.

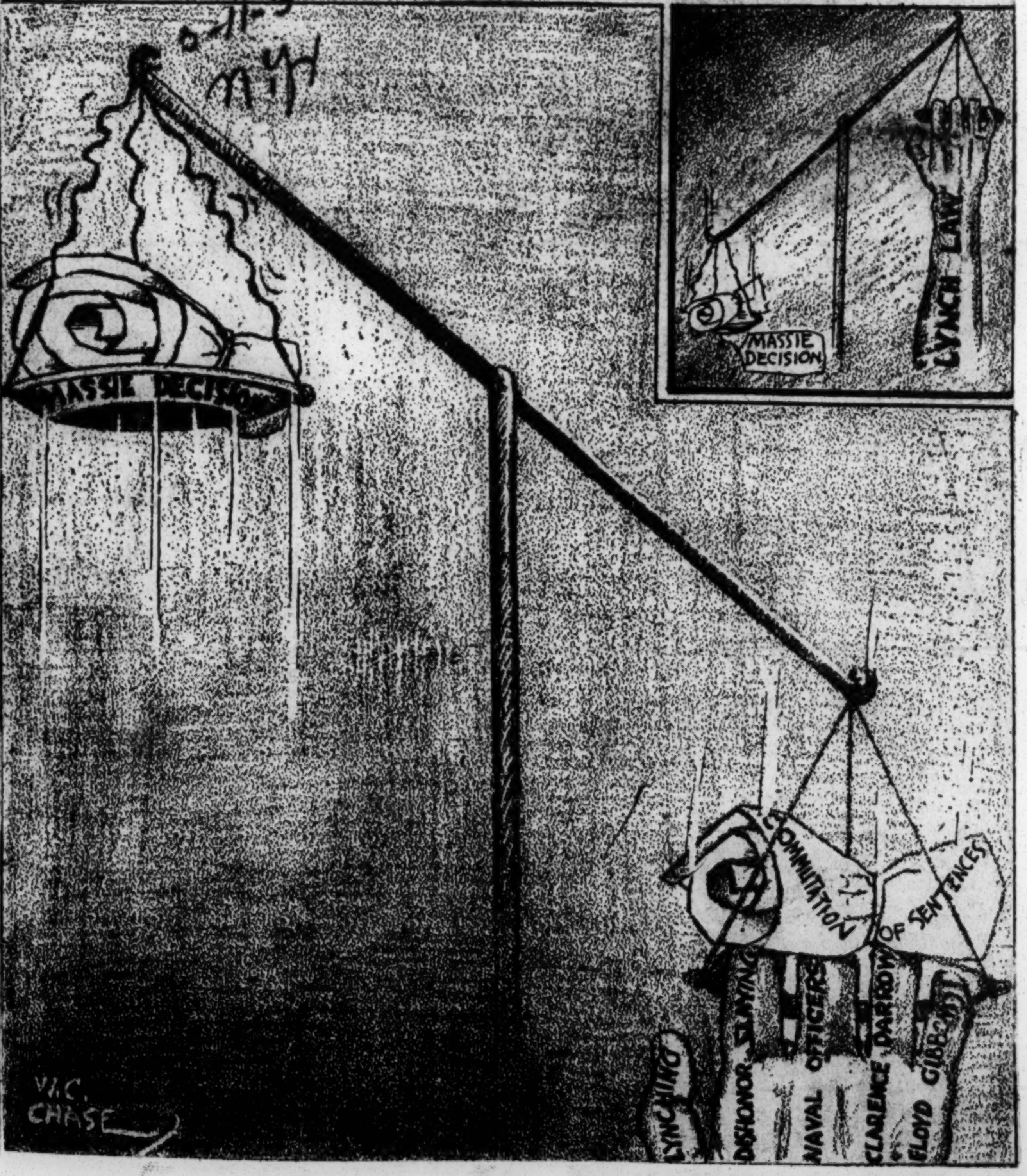
His whole appearance bespeaks frailty, but that condition is overbalanced by the keenness of his eyes and readiness of his speech. His voice is low and a bit hoarse. Sitting next to him, I had to strain time and again to follow what he was saying.

Amsterdam News

6-11-32

N.Y.

Outweighed



Honolulu, Hawaii.

3654

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

OBNOXIOUS INTERFERENCE.

[illegible]

From a casual reading of the public prints one would draw the conclusion that Congress had its hands more than full without attempting to dabble in the administration of Hawaiian justice. 5-4-32

A jury, upon which Americans predominated, after hearing all the evidence in the case and the defense plea of probably the outstanding criminal lawyer of the nation, found Lieutenant Massie and his co-defendants guilty. Yet, despite the first-hand findings of these twelve men good and true, Congress, with the moves which have been advanced palpably based upon prejudice, feeling and almost frenzy, would retry and dispose of the case at a distance of thousands of miles. Consider the nature of some of the congressional proposals: impeachment of the judge who presided at the Honolulu grand jury hearing, placing of Hawaii under direct federal control instead of territorial administration, granting of a congressional pardon to the condemned defendants, passage of a law changing the statute regulating mistrials in order that a possible avenue of escape might be closed to other members of the group charged, not convicted, with attacking Mrs. Massie. In addition to the surface folly, there is the far more fundamental danger of congressional interference with the judiciary.

Greensboro, N.C.

Equally obnoxious is the move started by American residents of Honolul to boycott firms who employ members of the Massie jury. Why these firms should be condemned is only part of the puzzlement. It is difficult enough to secure jurors without inauguration of a plan whereby popular clamor would separate them from their jobs merely because, in their rendition of civic service, they did what they considered their duty and returned a verdict, however unpopular, on the basis of the evidence presented. The American reaction, reaching its height in Congress, approaches if it does not attain the same plane of lawlessness, although not from the vicious angle, as that which led to the reprehensible case in question.

While the agitation rages, it is pertinent to remind that Judge Charles S. Davis has not yet passed sentence and that the stir which has been caused, particularly the application of congressional pressure, may well be calculated to interfere with the administration of justice and the conscientious discharge of his duty.

The Verdict at Hono[illegible]lu

The verdict at Honolulu is the culmi[illegible]tion of a tragedy that has from the start pro[illegible]dly shocked the American people. It began in a [illegible]kening crime, terrible not so much for any passion displayed as for a strange vindictive hate and sinister cruelty rare even in the long annals of criminology. There followed a weak and incompetent prosecution which resulted in a hung jury. The relatives of the victim had rejected the thought of private vengeance. Mrs. Massie had taken the stand as a witness, thereby showing herself both a good citizen and a brave woman. For nothing. Herald Tribune

The news that was flashed from the Pacific Friday night lends a final touch of bitter irony to this muddled and dismaying record. The prosecution of the relatives of the victim was as effective as the prosecution of the criminals was weak. What the amazing verdict represented in the minds of the jurors it is impossible to surmise. Perhaps it was a compromise between the racial elements of the jury. Perhaps it represented the same attitude of bewilderment and despair with which so many outside critics have discussed the problem. 5-1-32

Here a triumph is recorded—a triumph of a kind. The wheels of a judicial system have revolved and private vengeance has been duly rebuked. The majesty of the law has prevailed over the maneuvers of desperate men and women. Unfortunately for public respect for the courts, the judicial system which has thus triumphed so majestically had, only a few weeks before, failed miserably in handling the gravest crime in the history of the community. Irony could scarcely go farther. New York, N.Y.

The problem is an intensely local one, involving racial antagonisms, long peaceably adjusted, lately awakened to a new bitterness. But it is not unrelated to problems in certain sections of continental United States. The jury system, the powerful safeguards thrown around defendants —how much of the whole elaborate Anglo-Saxon system can be effectively applied to mixed populations illy trained in the traditions of such law and order? The sickening result at Honolulu has its heart-searching moral for many communities in the United States.

As for the defendants just found guilty, we take it for granted that under such an extraordinary verdict—with its recommendation of leniency—they cannot receive severe sentences. In a real sense no imprisonment can add to the cruel fate which has already enmeshed them. Every end of justice would be served, in our judgment, by suspension of sentence in each case. We hope tha[illegible] court will so view the grave issue [illegible] its hands.

Lynchings-1932

Honolulu, Hawaii.

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Defendants In [illegible]ulu Lynching

today Barry S. Ulrich would assist in the prosecution of Mrs. Fortescue and fellow defendants.

Twenty-six names drawn as prospective jurymen to try the case tell of their descent from many lands and give an almost perfect cross-section of the varied population of Honolulu.

Nine of the names are Chinese, one is Japanese, four are Hawaiian, one is Portuguese, one is Filipino and the remaining 10 are Anglo Saxon. The men are from many stations of life, from Chinese elevator operator to American bank manager.

Other panels of 26 names will be drawn as these are exhausted. Both sides expect the selection of a jury will be difficult.

THESE are defendants in Honolulu's lynching trial. Mrs. Granville Fortescue, socially prominent American; Albert O. Jones (upper right) and E. J. Lord (lower right), naval enlisted men, and Lieut. Thomas H. Massie (below) will be defended by Clarence Darrow.

April 4 Is Set For Trial Of 4 In Lynching

HONOLULU, March 25.—(AP)—Circuit Judge Charles S. Davis today tentatively set the trial of Mrs. Granville Fortescue and three others, charged with lynching Joseph Kahahawai, asserted attacker of her daughter, Mrs. Thomas H. Massie for April 4.

Advertiser

The judge agreed, however, to grant a delay of one week if Clarence Darrow, Chicago attorney, needs more time to prepare for the defense.

3-26-32

Darrow arrived only yesterday to aid in defending Mrs. Fortescue, Lieut. Massie, husband of Mrs. Massie, and E. J. Lord and Albert O. Jones, naval enlisted men, all of whom have pleaded not guilty to charges of second degree murder.

Montgomery, Ala.

Kahahawai, an Hawaiian, was shot to death Jan. 8 while at liberty on bail with four other men of mixed blood concerning whose guilt of assaulting Mrs. Massie a jury had disagreed.

Public Prosecutor John C. Kelley sai

Little Racial Antagonism In Hawaii, Owen Declares

3-22-32

(Russell Owen, one of America's best known reporters, is in the Hawaiians to cover the Fortescue-Massie trials for The Constitution, and the accompanying is the third of several stories on conditions in the "Paradise of the Pacific." Mr. Owen gained his greatest fame with his covering of the first Zeppelin flight over the north pole and his stories of the Byrd expedition to the antarctic. He was awarded the Pulitzer prize for the latter writings.)

BY RUSSELL OWEN.

HONOLULU, March 21.—There is no race antagonism in Hawaii as it is known on the mainland, and very little race prejudice. One has only to go to dances at some of the hotels to learn that. White men and women, and [illegible] who are apparently white but have [illegible] mixtures of blood in them, are seen dancing with dusky Hawaiians and with those of obvious oriental ancestry.

Atlanta, Ga.

Racial antagonism has never been a difficulty, although the recent troubles may bring some to the surface. The only real racial dislike is to the Filipinos who do the work in the fields. [illegible] obvious.

In the crime commission report a year ago there are a few statistics, about the only ones available. Dr. S. D. Porteus, Hawaii University, took the records of 434 inmates of the territorial prison. He found 72 were serving terms for murder, 10 for manslaughter. Nineteen of every hundred prisoners were sentenced for manslaughter, which Dr. Porteus says is a "very large relative percentage." Their average age was 35, so they were not young and impulsive.

80 Per Cent of Crime.

Aliens, including Filipinos and Porto Ricans, were responsible for 80 per cent of this crime. Filipinos made up 60 per cent of the murderers, the Hawaiians came next, their quota, however, being proportionate to their large ratio of the population. The Japanese, 35 per cent of the population, made up 12 per cent of the murderers. Thirteen of the murderers had been convicted previously, one for assaulting a woman.

There were 33 prisoners convicted of this last offense, their average age being 28.5. Their average minimum sentence was 4.7 years, their maximum 20.4. "One-third of crimes of this nature are committed by aliens, and one-third by Filipinos," said Porteus. "Hawaiians are over-represented in the racial quota; Japanese occupy a distinctly favorable position."

Fifteen prisoners were serving sentences for sex abuses of children under 12, and 50 per cent of crimes of this nature were committed by Filipinos. The average minimum sentence was 25.4 years, more severe than for murder. Of other sex crimes, 53 per cent were committed by Filipinos. Hawaiians were next.

Hawaiian Crime.

There were 100 cases of burglary, the average age being 24.89 years. Fourteen per cent were Filipinos, 41 per cent Hawaiians. "This is the distinctively Hawaiian crime," Dr. Porteus reports. Downtown at present there is a sign in an insurance company window which warns people that somebody's house is robbed every day. That is probable true in many cities; it is merely interesting here because one does not normally associate crime with the "paradise of the Pacific," where people always used to leave their doors unlocked.

When one inquires the reason for the full jails in Hawaii, particularly in Honolulu, most men point to unemployment, which is directly connected by them with the educational system. Hawaii spends nearly a quarter of its taxes on schools. The system has been under quiet criticism for some time, quiet because to talk out loud about so typical an American institution as the free school is not done.

But there are men who question whether the present type of education is best suited to the sons and daughters of plantation workers, girls and boys who acquire a distaste for the fields and for whom there is no future, except in rare instances, in the towns.

There is almost no industry in Hawaii except agriculture, the offices in cities have more applicants for positions than they can possibly use. The result is that there is a large floating population of young people with little opportunity ahead. That they should often become anti-social is natural. The best struggle along as well as they can, those with some strain of disease or psychopathic complications go under and become criminals, or street corner loafers.

1,200 Students.

The University of Hawaii has 1,200 students, half white and half of every other mixture in the islands. There is considerable amusement over the pidgin English of some of those taking college courses in the fine arts, but they are keen, as able to acquire knowledge as any white students, and apparently they appreciate their opportunity for education.

But when one of their leading professors was asked what was to become of them after graduation he was nonplused, and finally said he "hoped some of them would go back to China." In the lower schools there is a greater problem, for children may leave school at 14 and are often unable to find work. There are no factories here. From that adolescent group is recruited the petty criminal and delinquent element of the islands.

Living standards on the plantations have been greatly improved. The people are housed much better than in many American factory cities, largely because there is plenty of room, and fresh air and sunshine surround them; they have hospital service and other care, and while their wages are low they are higher than those in other sugar producing countries. They are foreign laborers living under modified American conditions.

Planters' Interest.

These things have come about largely through the intelligent interest of planters and those experimenters who have brought the Hawaiian sugar plantation to its high development, but there has been no check to prosperity really to test their unselfishness and business perspicacity.

All these people who were citizens of Hawaii at the time of annexation are now citizens of the United States, and those born here since that time are becoming citizens. Their effect on the eventual political and economic development of the islands is not yet certain.

Most of the haphazard methods of conducting government here seem due to the preponderant influence of Hawaiians in the electorate. Everybody prefers the happy-go-lucky Hawaiian control, however, to Japanese or Chinese control which, it has been predicted, is on its way. Statehood, it has been said, would bring eventually a Japanese governor. Some students of sociology here deny that, and say that years from now the Japanese vote will still be far from controlling the situation.

It is also said that no race votes here as a unit, and it is not likely that it will, because political power produces political jealousy within any faction and usually splits it. But the fear of Japanese control exists strongly.

Not Gone to Ruin.

Things have not gone to ruin in Honolulu despite the recent crimes, and it is difficult, living here and wandering through th[illegible] ize that the city is loo[illegible] States as a hotbed o[illegible] lulu is a widespread, [illegible] stretches over plains by the sea, pokes up valleys, and even climbs the spurs of hills. It is probably more scattered than any American city of its size. Guarding such a community is obviously difficult, and even if the Honolulu police force were the most efficient in the world it is not large enough to provide protection for women except by the most drastic methods.

Take the two most recent attacks on women, for instance. The first was in a little clearing in one of the most exclusive sections of the city. This settlement of cottages, however, was tucked away so that it was invisible, and a woman could call for help all day without attracting attention. The other was on the opposite side of the island, on a country road, where a policeman is hardly ever seen.

One of the conditions in Honolulu which demands correction is the housing situation, which makes such crimes possible. Rents are high and it is difficult to buy land. The white people are scattered. The result is that persons of moderate means must seek tiny cottages either on the outskirts or in the midst of oriental settlements. They are open to attack.

The army and navy have largely augmented the police force by sending patrols into the city, but they cannot maintain them there indefinitely. Nobody wants martial law in Honolulu, and yet the city cannot afford to spend much more on its police department. There is a great outcry at present because of heavy taxes, and there is demand for retrenchment in government expenditures.

Even yet Honolulu is not stirred, as one would expect, by recent events. Whether it is the climate or the self-satisfaction of its inhabitants which causes this peculiar apathy an outsider cannot say, but the apathy exists except among a few keen-witted men.

Four Americans Go On Trial In 'Honor Slaying'

Advertiser

4-4-32

Montgomery Ala.

Clarence Darrow Heads Defense Of Woman And Three U. S. Navy Men

Court Is Guarded

Police Ordered Excluded From Small Courtroom In Honolulu By Judge

HONOLULU, April 3.—(AP)—Clarence Darrow, veteran Chicago criminal attorney, tomorrow will begin in a beautiful tropical setting a grim court struggle to acquit Mrs. Granville Fortescue, American society woman, of the murder of a young Hawaiian.

The public will be excluded. Circuit Judge Charles S. Davis has announced that official passes have exhausted the scanty seating facilities of the small courtroom.

Demands for admittance to the courtroom have been numerous because of the great interest in the trial of Mrs. Fortescue and her three naval codefendants. The courtroom is in the Judiciary Building, over which a bronze statue of Kamehameha, the First, Hawaii's greatest ruler, stands guard.

A special police guard will surround the building to prevent crowds from gathering outside the courtroom. The guard was ordered despite the lack of any hint of a disturbance. Any racial feelings which may have existed apparently have subsided.

The New York society matron, her son-in-law, Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, and two enlisted men, Albert O. Jones and E. J Lord, are accused of kidnaping and slaying Joseph Kahahawai Jan. 8. The Hawaiian was one of four men accused of attacking Mrs. Massie last September. The jury at their first trial disagreed and they were awaiting retrial when the lynching took place.

HAWAIIAN LYNCHING TRIAL OPENS IN GUARDED COURTHOUSE MONDAY

Telegraph 4-3-32

Mrs. Fortesque and Three Navy Men Accused of Killing Young Native

HONOLULU, April 2 (AP)—In a temple of justice encircled by palm trees and armed policemen, Mrs. Fortescue, society matorn, and three men of the United States navy will go on trial Monday for the lynching of a young Hawaiian.

Although whatever racial feeling may have existed over the case apparently has subsided, and there has been no hint of disturbance, the police guard was ordered to go on duty during the court.

Macon Ga

Accused of the abduction and slaying last Jan. 8 of Joseph Kahahawai, one of five men held on charges of attacking Mrs. Fortescue's daughter, the society matron and her codefendants, Lieutenant Thomas H. Massie, and E. J. Lord and Albert O. Jones, enlitsed men, will pin their faith in an array of counsel headed by Clarence Darrow. The noted Chicago attorney came out of retirement to lead the defense.

Radio Equipment Installed

The public will be excluded from the little courtroom in which the quartet, indicted on a charge of second-degree murder, will be tried.

Reinforcing Darrow on the defense are George S. Leisure, of Chicago; Lieut. L. H. C. Johnson, of the army, and Kelley, newly named public prosecutor, and Barry S. Ulrich, acting as assitant, will prosecute.

Because of the intense interest exhibited in the states, extraordinary preparations have been made to "cover" the trial for the newspapers. Radio equipment has been installed linking the courtroom directly with press association office in San Francisco.

Charged with attacking Mrs. Thalia Massie, daughter of Mrs. Fortescue and wife of Lieutenant Massie, Kahahawai and four others were tried once but the jury disagreed. They were awaiting retrial when Kahahawai was lured out of this same judiciary building by a ruse and allegedly taken to the home of Mrs. Fortescue and shot to death.

Sessions to Be Short

Mrs. Fortescue, Lieutenant Massie and Lord, in a speeding automobile containing the body of Kahahawai, were captured by the police while headed for the ocean shore.

The attack and subsequent lynching, together with numerous attacks upon women caused an outburst of public feeling which resulted in a governmental reorganization and several investigations.

In deference to Darrow, who will be 75 years old April 18, Judge Charles Davis announced the court's sessions would be limited to three hours daily, beginning at 9 a. m., and ending at noon (2:30 p. m., to 5:30 p. m., Eastern standard time).

Natives Identify 4 Americans As Honor Slayers

Advertiser

4-12-32

Montgomery

Society Matron And Three U. S. Sailors Are Linked With Killing On Jan. 8

Defense A Secret

Darrow Reserves Plea To Jury; Witness Tells How Victim Was Abducted

HONOLULU, April 11.—(AP)—Brown fingers were leveled today from the witness chair at Mrs. Granville Fortescue and three Navy men as the prosecution began presenting evidence by which it hopes to imprison the quartet for the lynching of Joseph Kahahawai.

Two witnesses, Edward Ulii, cousin of the lynch victim, and George von Arnswald, a policeman, quickly identified the four in connection with the abduction last Jan. 8 of the young Hawaiian and in the subsequent futile dash of an automobile toward the sea with his sheet-shrouded body.

The New York and Washington society woman sat stiffly upright and obviously under strain to retain her composure as Ulii told in broken English and native Patois how Kahahawai had been lured into an automobile and whisked away.

John C. Kelley, Honolulu's new prosecutor, told a vivid story of the abduction and slaying in his opening statement, but Darrow, keeping the prosecution in the dark as much as possible regarding his plans, reserved his statement to the mixed jury.

Darrow Questions Witnesses

Always alert, the veteran Chicago lawyer twice interrupted the stories of prosecution witnesses. He questioned them closely as to whether Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, a co-defendant, made any remark when the car containing Kahahawai's body was stopped while it was dashing toward the wild waters about Koko Head, near the outskirts of the city.

Ulii testified he had gone to the Judiciary Building with Kahahawai Jan. 8, the day of the tragedy. The latter there made his daily report pending retrial on charges of participating with four other men in an attack on Mrs. Massie, wife of the lieutenant and daughter of Mrs. Fortescue.

The witness pointed out Albert O. Jones, one of the two accused enlisted men, as the person who handed Kahahawai a spurious warrant by which the abductors gained their end. Jones arose and gazed unflinchingly at Ulii.

The latter previously had named the abductors as Mrs. Fortescue, Massie, and Edward J. Lord, the fourth defendant. He said Massie wore a false mustache.

Court Clerk Testifies

William Dickson, part-Hawaiian court clerk, to whom Kahahawai had been reporting as probation officer, said Mrs. Fortescue had come to his office a few days before the killing and learned that the young Hawaiian was coming there daily.

The futile race of the death car toward Koko Head, from where Kahahawai's body could have been thrown to the strong tides and the sharks, was described by Von Answald, who told how he had stopped the machine and found the body.

Ulii, short, slight and somewhat resembling his dead cousin, told his story in slightly broken English, mixed with Hawaiian expressions.

He said he came to the courthouse with Kahahawai for the latter to report to the probation officer. Kahahawai and four others, accused of having attacked Mrs. Massie, were awaiting trial.

Ulii said he noticed two men and a woman in a car at the Judiciary Building. The woman pointed at them, he said.

After leaving the building, Ulii told the jury, an automobile containing these three persons drove up beside them and one of them handed Kahahawai a paper. Ulii then testified:

"One of the men say 'Joe, Maj. Ross (head of the Territorial Police) wants to see you.'"

Ulii asserted Kahahawai climbed into the car and asked him (Ulii) to come also, but that one of the men said:

"No, you stay here, we will be back soon."

Fake Warrant Introduced

Kelley then produced the fake warrant allegedly used to lure Kahahawai into the car and Ulii stood up and pointed to Jones as the man who had handed it to the lynching victim.

Ulii then identified E. J. Lord, the remaining defendants, as another who had helped spirit Kahahawai away from the Judiciary Building. One of the men, Ulii said, wore a mustache which he asserted he knew was false because "it stuck down flat." He pointed to Lieut. Massie as this man and said Massie was driving the car when Kahahawai was picked

Honolulu, Hawaii.

3656

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

NNOCENCE OF VICTIM OF LYNCHING APPEARS

Argus 10-7-32

Investigation for Definite Evidence of Guilt of Five in Assault Case Discloses None.

St. Louis, Mo.

.S. NAVY MEN FREED

Release of Four Surviving Hawaiians in the Massie Case Seems to be Certain.

NEW YORK, Oct. 6 —Echoes of the famous Hawaii lynching in connection with which three white American Navy men and the socially prominent mother-in law of one of the pair were cleared, were heard here Monday. Here on that day, Governor Judd, who pardoned the trio, met John C. Kelley, public prosecutor of Honolulu, to examine the advisability of retrying or dismissing the case against four natives accused of assaulting Mrs. Thomas Massie, wife of one of the officers. The quartette and the slain Hawaiian, Joseph Kahahawai, were said to have criminally assaulted the wife of one of the navy men Mrs. Thomas H. Massie.

Lieut Massie, his mother-in-law and two enlisted men were convicted of manslaughter May 4 in the abduction from a court room and shooting of Kahahawai. They were sentenced to ten years' imprisonment, which was immediately commuted to one hour by Governor Judd.

Investigation Brings Doubt

In four months thereafter an investigation financed from the contingent funds of Hawaii was conducted by the Pinkerton Detective Agency, through its operative John Fraser, in search of more definite evidence concerning the guilt of the slain and surviving natives.

The Fraser report which was handed to Governor Judd before he left Hawaii on Sept. 7, was understood to cast grave doubts on the guilt of the five natives

But unreservedly behind the movement the moral and material weight of its powerful party organization."

The commission found that the boycott embittered relations between China and Japan. It declined, however, to pronounce judgment on one important question: whether the action of Kuomintang in forwarding the boycott movement constituted an act of the government.

"The claim of the government that the boycott is a legitimate weapon of defense against military aggression by a stronger country, especially on cases where methods of arbitration have not previously been utilized

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QUIETLY SHELVED

Courier

HEN THE Massie-Fortesque rape-murder case was agitating our Anglo-Saxon patriots, Representative Guinn Williams of Texas introduced a bill in the House of Representatives for drastic changes in the government of Hawaii, which would have placed that territory under the thumb of Washington and the War Department. Now it is reported that neither the House nor Senate Committees on Territories are going to bring it up. The bill is to be quietly shelved. 12-17-32

Why? Because the white folks have calmed down quite a bit and begun to look at the Massie-Fortesque case in the cold light of reason and probability. Mr. Seth W. Richardson, the representative of the Department of Justice, who made an investigation in Honolulu shortly after the murder and trial, is also due considerable credit for his very fine and impartial summary of actual conditions existing in Hawaii. Also, since that time there have been a whole lot of stories in the press by Americans living in the Territory that have confirmed views held by most Aframericans on the subject of the unproved guilt of Kahahawai, the murdered. Then, too, Governor Judd of Hawaii hired the Pinkerton Detective Agency to look into the matter, and what they discovered threw a new light on the whole case. It is significant that neither Governor Judd nor the U. S. Government has seen fit to publish the results of the Pinkerton investigation.

Pittsburgh Pa.

We know now that there have been less cases of criminal assault in Honolulu in the past five years than any city of its size on the mainland; that the administration of justice in the Islands is efficient and humane and not influenced by mob hysteria; that there is great intermixture and intermingling between the various races there, and that East and West, male and female, not only meet on Waikiki Beach for sunbaths, but, apparently, like it very much.

Since America knows all this, there will be no change in the government of Hawaii.

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Honolulu, Hawaii

3657

Prosecution Witnesses Identify Mrs. Fortescue

Constitution 4-12-32

Atlanta, Ga.

Defense Maintains Silence on Plans as State Opens Vigorous Effort To Secure Conviction in Honolulu Case.

HONOLULU, April 11.—(AP)—Brown fingers were leveled today from the witness chair at Mrs. Granville Fortescue and three navy men as the prosecution began presenting evidence by which it hopes to imprison the quartet for the lynching of Joseph Kahahawai.

Two witnesses, Edward Ulii, cousin of the lynch victim, and George Von Arnswald, a policeman, quickly identified the four in connection with the abduction last January 8 of the young Hawaiian and in the subsequent futile dash of an automobile toward the sea with his sheet-enshrouded body.

The New York and Washington society woman sat stiffly upright and obviously under strain to retain her composure as Ulii told in broken English and native patois how Kahahawai had been lured into an automobile and whisked away.

Only once did a smile flit over her patrician features. That was when Clarence Darrow, generalissimo of the defense, turned and grinned at her as she entered the courtroom. Her answering smile appeared forced.

John C. Kelley, Honolulu's new prosecutor, told a vivid story of the abduction and slaying in his opening statement, but Darrow, keeping the prosecution in the dark as much as possible regarding his plans, reserved his statement to the mixed jury.

Always alert, the veteran Chicago lawyer twice interrupted the stories of prosecution witnesses. He questioned them closely as to whether Lieutenant Thomas H. Massie, a co defendant, made any remark when the car containing Kahahawai's body was stopped while it was dashing toward the wild waters about Koko Head near the outskirts of the city.

Ulii testified he had gone to the judiciary building with Kahahawai January 8, the day of the tragedy. The latter there made his daily report pending retrial on charges of participating with four other men in an attack on Mrs. Massie, wife of the lieutenant and daughter of Mrs. Fortescue.

The witness pointed out Albert O. Jones, one of the two accused enlisted men, as the person who handed Kahahawai a spurious warrant by which the abductors gained their end. Jones arose and gazed unflinchingly at Ulii.

The latter previously had named the abductors as Mrs. Fortescue, Massie and Edward J. Lord, the fourth defendant. He said Massie wore a false mustache.

As Ulii pointed to Mrs. Fortescue as the woman in the abduction car she did not look up.

William Dickson, part Hawaiian court clerk to whom Kahahawai had been reporting as probation officer, said Mrs. Fortescue had come to his office a few days before the killing and learned that the young Hawaiian was coming there daily.

The futile race of the death car toward Koko Head, from where Kahahawai's body could have been thrown to the strong tides and the sharks, was described by Von Arnswald, who told how he had stopped the machine and found the body.

DARROW BARS NATIVES FROM HAWAII TRIAL JURY; ACTS AS IMPERIALIST TOOL

Daily Worker

4-7-32 New York,

N. A. A. C. P. Candidate for Attorney in Scottsboro Case Shows Vile Race Hatred

Use Liberal Face to Cover up Oppression of Hawaiian Masses

Clarence Darrow, chief counsel of the four white Americans who admittedly lynched a young Hawaiian worker, is fighting to exclude all natives from the jury in the trial which has opened in Honolulu. He has peremptorily challenged all natives on the panel and is seeking to have an all-white jury which would whitewash the murderers of the young Hawaiian worker, Joe Kahahawai, Jr. A Honolulu dispatch on the trial to the New York World-Telegram reports:

"Sharp drawn racial lines embittered the alleged honor slaying trial of four Americans today as the defense used peremptory challenges to obtain a jury of whites and prosecutors favored Orientals and half-castes.

"Darrow excused one half-caste after another, occasionally a Japanese or Chinese with them."

Darrow was the latest candidate of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for "defense" attorney in the Scottsboro case in their attempt to betray the Scottsboro boys and to soft-peddle the vital issues in the case. Darrow is now stirring up race hatred against the Hawaiian masses and defending white lynchers who have proudly admitted their crime and have tried to excuse it with the usual lie of "rape" against colored men. Stephen Roddy another "defense" candidate of the NAACP is a Klansman who betrayed the boys at the mock trial in Scottsboro, Ala., and attempted to have the boys plead guilty to the lying framed-up charge of "raping" two white prostitutes.

PROSECUTION HITS AT MRS. FORTESCUE

Constitution

4-13-32

Honolulu Testimony Points to Woman's Home as Scene of Slaying.

Atlanta, Ga.

BY WILLIAM H. EWING.

HONOLULU, April 12.—(AP)—Bloody links in the chain of circumstantial evidence, beginning with the finding of Joseph Kahahawai's body, were trailed into the darkened home of Mrs. Granville Fortescue by the prosecution today in the trial of the society matron and three navy men for the slaying of the native.

Two bed sheets bearing stains which the prosecution contended was the blood of Kahahawai were unfolded before the racially mixed jury after a police officer had testified similar linen was missing from a bed in the Fortescue home.

A length of rope, blood stains on a bedroom floor, evidence the bathroom had recently been scrubbed, a photograph of Kahahawai taken from a woman's purse, an automatic pistol and a steel-jacketed bullet were mentioned by a succession of prosecution witnesses as their findings in the house.

Mrs. Fortescue Unmoved.

One witness identified the rope as identical to that which bound the sheet-wrapped body of the young native when taken from the automobile in which Mrs. Fortescue and two other defendants, Lieutenant Thomas H. Massie and Edward J. Lord were dashing toward the sea when stopped by police.

Another witness testified the purse, in which Kahahawai's photograph was found, belonged to Mrs. Fortescue.

Through it all the society matron sat without lifting her eyes.

First the clothing of Kahahawai, who was abducted and slain last January while awaiting retrial on charges of participating in an attack on Mrs. Massie, wife of Lieutenant Massie and daughter of Mrs. Fortescue, was exhibited. This drew no objection from Clarence Darrow, veteran American attorney who heads the defense counsel.

Constitution

The rope which had bound the body was identified by an officer testifying for the prosecution. Darrow made no attempt to interrupt his story.

Dr. Robert Faus, city and county physician, testified Kahahawai apparently bled or strangled to death after receiving a bullet wound [illegible] the left chest. The physician said the wound ranged downward. He said there was no evidence of water in the lungs, apparently settling rumors Kahahawai had been given the "water cure" in an attempt to make him confess participating in the Massie attack.

4-13-32

Only One Objection.

Mrs. Massie sat quietly throughout the court session, the second day of testimony.

Darrow and Public Prosecutor John C. Kelley argued over the prosecution's introduction in evidence of a signet ring and a wrist watch with a broken crystal, both taken from Kahahawai's body.

Darrow objected to the ring, but not to the watch. After conferring with counsel, Circuit Judge Charles S. Davis admitted both. It was learned Darrow had objected to the ring because it bore the insignia of a Honolulu high school which members of the jury had attended.

In cross-examining Dr. Faus, Darrow showed considerable interest in how close the bullet had come to the backbone, but did not reveal his reason.

Chain Of Evidence Tightens Around Americans

Advertiser 4-13-32 Montgomery Ala.

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2 Alienists Call Massie Insane; Trial Near End

Advertiser 4-20-32 Montgomery Ala.

Insist Naval Officer Was Deranged When Assault On Wife Was Avenged

Defense To Rest

Darrow Expecting To Put Mrs. Massie On Stand Today And Then Close

By WILLIAM H. EWING
Associated Press Staff Correspondent

HONOLULU, April 19.—(AP)—Alienist testimony that Lieut. Thomas H. Massie was insane at the moment Joseph Kahahawai was killed put the prosecution in a fighting mood today as the defense effort to clear four persons of the lynching approached its finale.

Insisting the young naval officer was mentally deranged when he allegedly stood before Kahahawai with drawn pistol and supposedly heard the young native confess taking part in the attack on Mrs. Thalia Massie, Dr. James Orbison, Los Angeles psychiatrist, stuck by his story under a furious attack at the hands of Barry S. Ulrich, assistant prosecutor.

Dr. Edward Huntington Williams, another Los Angeles alienist, likewise testified Massie was mentally unbalanced. This witness added he believed Massie was telling the truth.

Clarence Darrow, 75-year-old defense attorney, announced he would close his case tomorrow and probably would call Mrs. Thalia Massie, attack victim and wife of the accused naval officer, to the stand.

Others Won't Testify

This made it virtually certain none of the other defendants, Mrs. Granville Fortescue, mother of Mrs. Massie; Albert O. Jones and E. J. Lord, naval enlisted men, would be called to testify.

It was learned the defense sometime ago decided not to call Mrs. Fortescue and Lord but for a time had considered putting Jones on the stand because of prosecution hints of its belief he was the real killer of Kahahawai. The defense, it developed, decided this would not be necessary and elected to take its chances on Massie's story.

Dr. Paul Withington, former Harvard athlete, who attended Mrs. Massie and performed an operation upon her after the attack, and Samuel Stewart, retired army captain, had testified briefly, after which the prosecution recalled Massie to the stand to question him about participating in amateur theatricals.

At Darrow's request Dr. Orbison explained the meaning of the word psychiatry for the benefit of the racially mixed jury. He then termed Massie's condition at the time of the tragedy as "delirium with ambulatory autonism." Darrow asked for a simplified definition and the witness called it mental derangement.

"Carried Around Memory"

Massie "carried around this terrible memory," Dr. Orbison continued, "and also what his friends had told him—terrible rumors about his wife and one that he himself hit her in the jaw and broke it."

"Do you believe his condition of mind, started with the assault on his wife, was contributed to by everything else that followed?" Darrow asked.

"Oh, certainly."

The witness then went into a long discussion of glands but Darrow cut him off with:

"Well, doctor, you believe the defendant Massie was insane when the shooting occurred?"

"Certainly," Dr. Orbison said. "Massie told me that in the moment Kahahawai uttered the words 'we done it,' he didn't know what happened. I asked him what he did with the gun and other things and he said he didn't know."

The fight began when Barry S. Ulrich, assistant prosecutor, took Dr. Orbison for cross-examination. Prosecutor John C. Kelley previously had expressed disbelief in the story told on the stand by Massie, and hinted that Albert O. Jones, another defendant, actually fired the shot.

Ulrich sought to get Dr. Orbison to admit that his opinion was based on the assumption Massie's story was true.

"I would still believe he was insane whether I believed him or not," the witness said.

The Honolulu Verdict

Telegraph 5-1-32 Macon Ga.

Conviction of the four defendants in the so-called "honor slaying" case in Honolulu comes as a surprise and a shock to most of us, perhaps. A feeling that the white men on the jury would not vote to punish a husband for avenging an attack on his wife by a hoodlum with a brown skin was combined with an almost superstitious confidence in the infallibility of Clarence Darrow as a defender. Guesses as to the jury's decision were, up to the time of the verdict's announcement, about equally divided between acquittal and mistrial.

That it was a just and even a lenient verdict, when considered from a strictly legalistic standpoint, there can be little argument. Lieutenant Massie admitted shooting Kahahawai and the evidence that the other defendants were implicated was not refuted. Darrow's contention that Massie was insane at the instant he pulled the trigger of the pistol was nullified by the fact that defense alienists said he was crazy and prosecuting alienists said he wasn't, thus cancelling themselves out and leaving the question of Massie's mental state to the common-sense of the jurors. Evidently, they decided against putting any stock in the defense story of "the mental bomb that exploded in Massie's head" when Kahahawai admitted to him that he had ravished his wife. Evidently, too, they brought in a compromise verdict, for it is only by determined sophistry that one is able to fit the legal definition of manslaughter to the homicide as seen in the light of the evidence adduced in this case. Thus, according to the law and the evidence, the verdict was, if anything, justice liberally tempered with mercy.

Tested by the argumentum ad hominum, however, the verdict is less easy to applaud. Sympathy for Massie in his lawless vengeance springs from a natural impulse, while approval of the verdict which may send him and his colleagues in crime to the penitentiary for ten years comes from a cultivated, almost an artificial sense of the necessities for social discipline. The one impulse is intuitive, the other come from a sense of duty to uphold a code whch protects the welfare of the group at the expense of the individual. Ask the average man what he would have done, in Massie's place, and he will, if completely honest, admit he would have been (at least) sorely tempted to do the same thing. This same man, however, may add that, if he had been on the jury, he would have considered it his duty to society to bring in a verdict of guilty.

Thus delicately are our impulses conterbalanced by our "respect for law", our prejudices by our social conscience.

What the result of the verdict will be on the tense situation which exists in the islands as a result of this case and others of a similar nature is impossible to predict, at this distance. It may serve to lend encouragement to the lawless element which was represented by Kahahawai and his brutal accomplices. This, doubtless, will be counterbalanced by greater vigilance and more aggressive enforcement of the law by the territorial officials. The outcome of the second trial of the surviving members of the gang which attacked Mrs. Massie and the result of the appeal of the manslaughter verdict probably will serve as the final precipitants of a solution still clouded by warring elements.

THE MASSIE CASE FIGURES IN HAWAIIAN ELECTION

Argus 11-12-32

According to press reports, the Hawaiian Islands went Democratic in the last election by a large majority, thus ousting Republican officers, some of whom had held their jobs for a quarter of century.

The Fortesque-Massie case was made the paramount issue of the campaign. Quoting from the news dispatch, we note the following: "An aftermath of the Fortesque-Massie case was outstanding in the political campaign which ended here Tuesday in one of the most complete political turnovers in the history of Hawaii. Ousting Republicans, some of whom had held office a quarter century, the Democrats gained the post of Delegates to Congress and a majority of the local plums. The returns placed in office as delegate, Lincoln L. McCandless, a Democrat, who campaigned vigorously, charging that his opponent's stand on the Fortesque-Massie case was an act of treachery to the Hawaiian race and that his recommendation to Governor Judd for the pardon of the four defendants, charged with slaying a Hawaiian who allegedly attacked Mrs. Massie, was indefensible."

The natives are to be congratulated on their sense and judgment. It was their opportunity to pass judgment on those who had disregarded their rights as citizens. It was not a matter of party with them. What an object lesson this might be to the Negroes in this country—See

Lynchings-1932
6

Honolulu, Hawaii.

3658

3658

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

WIFE OF OFFICER

Constitution

TEARS UP PAPER

4-21-32

SHOWN BY STATE

Atlanta, Ga.

Young Woman Has Difficulty Telling of Events of Night on Which She Was Brutally Attacked by Group of Natives.

ALIENIST BACKS INSANITY CLAIMS

Doctor Declares Massie Undoubtedly Was Demented at Time of Slaying of Kahahawai.

BY RUSSELL OWEN.

(Copyright, 1932, by the North American Newspaper Alliance, Inc.)

HONOLULU, April 20.—One of the most dramatic scenes ever witnessed in a courtroom occurred today when Mrs. Thalia Massie testified in the defense of her husband, Lieutenant Thomas H. Massie, U. S. N., who is charged with the murder of the man he believed had assaulted her. The climax came with incredible swiftness and it was like an emotional and vivid play.

Mrs. Massie was like a hurt child under the guidance of Clarence Darrow, the chief counsel for the defense, as with uncontrollable fits of silent weeping she told a story which brought tears to the eyes of the many women in the room, irrespective of race or color. She is blonde, with her hair rolled up at the back, and her face is round and pale, her eyes slightly protuberant. Her voice is low and she talks with a slow drawl as if having difficulty in forcing the words, and there is little inflection. She looked even less than her 21 years.

When Mrs. Massie broke down she quickly regained control, and she got through the day fairly well until the end, when the prosecutor, John C. Kelley, began cross-examining her. Then there came a transformation from the pathetic-looking figure into a woman who, with low voice but face blazing, turned on him as he produced a paper containing facts regarding her feeling toward her husband before the assault. It was part of a psychiatric examination made by Dr. E. Lowell Kelly, of the University of Hawaii.

Given Paper.

The prosecutor handed her the paper and asked if the answers there were in her handwriting. She looked up at Mr. Kelley in quiet fury.

"Where did you get this?" she demanded. "Don't you know that this is a confidential communication between doctor and patient?"

As Mrs. Massie spoke she slowly tore the paper in two and went on tearing it while Mr. Kelley looked at her in amazement.

"I refuse to say whether that is my handwriting or not," she went on in low, terse tones. "What right have you to bring this into a public court?"

As she finished there was not much left of the document which Mr. Kelley had given her and as she tossed the fragments aside there was a burst of applause from the spectators.

Lieutenant Massie sat as if stunned for a moment and then leaned forward clapping his hands with long, swift movements of his arms. Judge Davis who has been extremely lenient toward the public, turned angrily and threatened to clear the room if there was not immediate silence. Mr. Kelley's neck had been getting redder and redder as he watched the witness, and as they stared at each other he blurted out:

Rebuked by Judge.

"Thank you, Mrs. Massie. At last you've shown yourself in your true colors."

Quickly Judge Davis said:

"Your language is objectionable."

It was evident that Mr. Kelley was mad clear through and so was the woman, despite the emotional strain she had undergone. She left the witness stand and moved forward, half bending over as if she found it difficult to stand, twisting the handkerchief in her hands in a long roll, and her husband went quickly forward to meet her. She dropped her head on his shoulder as he put his arms around her and helped her into a seat. Throwing her arms around him she cried loudly and hysterically:

"What right has he got to say that I don't love you? Everybody knows I love you."

For the first time she sobbed out loud and for a few moments there was a feeling of sympathetic embarrassment among the spectators, mixed with wonder at such an unexpected outburst from one who had been so well controlled under difficulties. It was as if all the dramatic and emotional parts of her character had welled up in that one final cry of protest, and it left exhausted those who had watched the quick unrollment of the exciting and somewhat theatrical scene.

Others Submerged

There were a few other witnesses, but everything else was submerged with the appearance of Mrs. Massie. She came into the court room for the first time and sat between her husband and her mother, Mrs. Granville Fortescue, co-defendant with Lieutenant Massie and two navy enlisted men, E. J. Lord and A. O. Jones, for the killing of Joseph Kahahawai, a Hawaiian. She undoubtedly looked forward with dread to her appearance on the stand to repeat the story of the attack upon her last September. She had been in the court only a few minutes when she asked for a drink of water.

She waited, holding her husband's hand, during the cross-examination of Dr. Everett Williams, alienist for the defense. When Mr. Darrow called for her, she went forward stoopingly and groped for the witness chair before the clerk stopped her. Then for a moment she stood straight with hand raised and sat down with the curiously quiet demeanor of a little girl. There was a faintly wistful look in a face which otherwise is almost expressionless. On one side of her jaw could be seen a slight mark where she was beaten at the time of the attack.

She told her age and of her marriage at 16 to Lieutenant Massie on Thanksgiving Day, 1927. Her eyes were fixed on Mr. Darrow and she twisted a handkerchief nervously in her hands when in reply to a question she said quietly that she remembered the night of the party at Ala Wai inn last September. There were 75 or a hundred people there, she said, and she danced for a time. She didn't have anything to eat, and only part of a highball, as she didn't care to drink much. She left the dance at 11:35 and planned to walk to the corner and back. At that time she didn't know where Tommy, her husband, was.

Tired and Bored.

When Mr. Darrow asked her why she left, she said: "I wasn't enjoying the party and I was tired and bored."

She walked down the street a way and then turned off into another road because it was better lighted. Then she decided to go down to Fort De Russie and back.

At this point Mr. Kelley objected to the testimony on the ground that only part of it was relevant, and that was what she told Lieutenant Massie.

"We are not trying the Ala Moana case," he said. Mr. Darrow then changed the form of his questions.

"When did you next she Tommy?" he said, gently.

Mrs. Massie suddenly began to cry, not loudly, but burying her face in her hands for a moment. When she lifted her face again her features were working convulsively and helplessly, like a child who had been hurt. She put a handkerchief to her eyes and then took it between her hands and began twisting it as if in pain, and with no sound the tears ran down her face. It was not pleasant to watch her and many women in the court could be seen weeping. Mr. Darrow waited a moment and finally she said, with the same low, monotonous voice:

"I saw him about 1 o'clock. He telephoned. I asked him to come home right away, that something terrible—"

Buries Face in Hands.

That was as far as she got, for again she buried her face in her hands while her whole body shook with silent, racking sobs. Mrs. Fortescue got up quickly and took a glass of water to George Leisure, of defense counsel, who went forward and handed it to Mrs. Massie when she again looked up, her face distorted in agony with the remembrance of that night.

"Did Tommy come home?" Mr. Darrow asked.

"Yes, he came home right away," Mrs. Massie went on, her voice shaking and the tears rolling down her cheeks, but with it all strangely quiet. Her manner was strange, for she broke down so completely and then silently regained control time and again. There could be no doubt as to the reality of her suffering; the only thing was the unusual manner of its manifestation.

"I heard him coming to the door," she said, "and ran to him and told him something awful had happened. He asked what—I didn't want—to tell him because it was so terrible. I finally sat down on the couch and told him some men had taken me and—" she struggled with her emotions for a moment and said, "assaulted me." At this, she again covered her face and Lieutenant Massie sat with head bowed and his hand over his eyes. Once he furtively reached for a handkerchief in his hip pocket and dabbed it at his eyes and shoved it back in, quickly, as if hoping he had been unseen.

Talk With Police.

Mrs. Massie told him she had taken some simple medical precautions and soon after the police arrived and talked to her.

"Tommy told them what happened," she said. "I was crying. My jaw hurt. It was hard to talk. They took me to the hospital finally and then the police station. When we got home I told him I had seen one of the men at the police station who had attacked me. Then I told him more or less what happened.

"A car had stopped and two men jumped out. One was Chang and one was Kahahawai. Kahahawai grabbed me by the arm and struck me, and Chang said, 'Come on, baby, you're going for a ride.' They pulled me into the car and Kahahawai struck me again. I screamed."

Her voice broke for a moment as she said, half hysterically: "They kept beating me all the time.

"I told Tommy that we went down to Ala Moana and Chang and Kahawai dragged me out of the car and over into the bushes." For a moment she paused, struggling for control. "I told him they had assaulted me and that Kahahawai had broken my jaw."

Builds Up Effect.

Through all of her story Mrs. Massie did much more than produce an emotional effect and tell the events leading up to the killing of Kahahawai; she built up, little by little, the devastating effect that this story had on her husband to prove the defense contention that the tragedy so preyed on his mind, when the moment Kahahawai confessed came, he was mentally unbalanced by the shock of actually hearing what he had been so long striving to obtain—a confession from one of her attackers.

"They wouldn't let me go," she went on. "They hit me as hard as they could. I said, 'Look how you've—you've knocked some of my teeth out.' He said, 'Shut up,' and swore at me. The others were standing around laughing and talking. The others assaulted me, too."

Mrs. Massie told of her beads being torn from her dress and hearing from the policemen that some of them had been found in the car used by her attackers. She also told her husband she had seen the car number.

"I offered to give them money and they just laughed," she said. "One asked me if I had any and I said, 'Yes, in my pocketbook.' Then one in front of the car turned around and said, 'Get the pocketbook.' I told them my husband would give them money if they'd take me back and they just laughed."

At this point Mr. Kelley could not longer restrain himself and got up, saying: "I don't want to keep interjecting objections. But—"

Turns on Kelley.

Mr. Darrow turned on him with a flash of anger and said bitterly: "You shouldn't."

"I think I should have objected much more," went on Mr. Kelley, but Judge Davis permitted Mrs. Massie to continue.

"Tommy put me to bed," she said. "But I couldn't sleep. He couldn't go to bed for a long time, and kept walking up and down."

The next day she went to Queen's hospital, she said, and some men were brought in there. She told Detective McIntosh that Kahahawai was the one who broke her jaw. Lieutenant Massie asked her if she were sure and she said, "Yes, I wouldn't say so if I weren't positive."

"How many of them did you identify?" Mr. Darrow asked.

"I identified four of them," she said. Again Judge Davis overruled an objection.

They couldn't do much for her jaw the first few days because it was so painful, and after a time they took her to her home four miles away, where she could be more comfortable. From that time her husband was continually taking care of her, she said.

"He took care of me at night," she said. "He was so tired—never minded how many times I woke him up—he was just wonderful."

Recess Taken.

A recess was taken then, and as Mrs. Massie blindly reached out for the railing and rose, Lieutenant Massie ran to the witness stand. She stretched out her arm toward him and almost fell into his arms, and he helped her back to her chair as she put her handkerchief to her face. There was a feeling of relief that the tragic picture could be interrupted for a few minutes. When she resumed on the stand she again was outwardly calm, although she kept twisting her handkerchief and wound a piece around her finger, turning the rest into a rope like a small, nervous girl.

Her husband didn't sleep well after the assault and hardly ate anything, she said. In a perfectly expressionless voice she told of the operation she underwent at the hospital and of the Ala Moana trial of Kahahawai and the other defendants. It was then she began hearing all kinds of rumors, she said.

"I remember hearing Tommy hadn't believed me and that he was going to get a divorce," she said quietly. "I heard I was assaulted by a naval officer and that Tommy found him in my home and beat him and then beat me up. I heard all kinds of rumors. He used to worry about them and I told him not to. He didn't seem very well, anyhow. He said once or twice it would be wonderful to get a confession. It always worried him. I wanted him to forget about it, but he couldn't. He used to walk up and down, get up in the night and go into the living room and walk up and down and smoke."

Tells of Killing.

Mrs. Massie told how Jones had been detailed to guard her while her husband was on sea duty and how he came into the house on the morning of the killing. She was in her bedroom getting dressed and it was about 10 o'clock.

"Was that before or after Kahahawai had been killed?"

"It was after."

"What was his condition?"

"He came into the living room and called for me. I said, "What's the matter, Jones.' He looked pale. He said Kahahawai had been killed. I said, 'Where is Tommy?' and he said, 'He's with your mother.' He asked me for a drink and I poured him one but he said, 'That's not enough' and I filled his glass."

When Mr. Kelley began the cross-examination of Mrs. Massie he asked her about the telephone calls to her home and asked if Jones did not go to the phone after Lieutenant Pace had called, and say to him: "Leo, cover him up, cover him all up."

Mrs. Massie looked angry then for the first time and snapped back that an enlisted man certainly would not call a lieutenant he did not know by his first name. Neither had Jones ever called her husband "Massie" in her presence, she said. Then came the question as to her examination by the psychiatrist at the University of Hawaii and her sudden outburst of anger which ended the questioning. When the confusion was over, Mr. Darrow quietly said: "The defense rests."

Williams on Stand.

Dr. Williams was on the stand for an hour during the morning under cross-examination by Barry S. Ulrich, of the prosecution, who tried to get him to admit that an insanity plea often was made when defendants were perfectly sane. Although lawyers do sometimes do this, said Dr. Williams, he added that faking was not common and was not usually successful. One of the main reasons he believed Lieutenant Massie had been insane and not in a rage, Dr. Williams went on, was that he fired only once—if he had been in a rage he would have shot Kahahawai full of holes as he had many cartridges left in the pistol.

He also added that he believed Lieutenant Massie's story was true because he had undergone one of the most masterful examinations he had ever heard and the young naval officer's story never had been dented. Judge Davis brought out from both alienists—the other alienist who had testified previously was Dr. Thomas J. Orbison—the point that they believed Lieutenant Massie had become insane immediately on hearing Kahahawai's words: "We done it."

It is probable that one more day will see the end of the testimony in the trial. The prosecution expects to call Dr. Robert Faus, a local physician, and Or. Paul Bowers, of I

Angeles, to offset the medical testimony for the defense.

Dr. Bowers arrives tomorrow morning and it is likely that he will require a day to read the testimony and examine Lieutenant Massie, so two more days will be consumed before the final summing up.

Darrow Draws Line in Hawaii

East Tennessee News

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.—Stirring up of race hatred and barring of all non-whites from the jury has been the policy of Clarence Darrow in Hawaii, in his lynch-murder defense, according to press dispatches. Darrow, who was the candidate of the N. A. A. C. P. as defender of the Scottsboro boys, is engaged in the defense of Mrs. Granville Fortescue, her son-in-law, Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, and two enlisted men charged with lynching and murdering a native Hawaiian, Joseph Kahahawai. Dispatches stated that Darrow excused one half-cast after another, and full blooded natives. Japanese and Chinese were looked on with equal disfavor by the defense.

4-28-32

"Racial cross-currents flowed through the jury box today as opposing counsel sought to divert them to their own advantage," a dispatch to the New York Times stated.

"Sharp drawn racial lines embittered the alleged honor slaying of four Americans today as the defense used premptory challenge to obtain a jury of whites and prosecutors favored Orientals and half-castes," the World-Telegram said.

The N. A. A. C. P. attempted to draw Darrow into the Scottsboro case, paid him a large fee, said to have been $2,000, only to have his statement that he would not defend the Scottsboro boys. A promise that the fee would be returned in the form of a contribution to Scottsboro defense has not been kept by Darrow.

SANCTITY OF THE LAW

Chicago Defender 4/23/32

The Chicago Herald and Examiner has suddenly become awakened to the importance of womanhood. Sad to note, however, that this protection is limited only to white womanhood. This fact was emphasizel in an editorial of this paper Monday morning in which it set up a new standard for jury trials under the jurisdiction of American courts in the so-called "honor slaying" in Honolulu. The following are some of the new doctrines on law and order enunciated by the Herald and Examiner:

Under the circumstances it is irrelevant to speak of the "sanctity of the law."

The questions uppermost in the minds of all civilized observers of the trial are:

What sort of jury is it that is about to try this case?

Is it a white or colored or mixed jury, and if mixed, what is the proportion of the white representation?

Are there any white women on the jury that is to try a white woman for avenging a crime against the honor of a white woman?

There is no white woman on that Honolulu jury. There is no woman on the jury. Women are excluded from jury service in Hawaii.

It is a jury of 12 men, seven of whom are white and five of mixed blood.

Both defense and prosecution are reported as expressing satisfaction with the personnel of the panel.

It is the best jury the defense could get.

It is the worst jury the prosecution could contrive, and it fought to make it still worse by fighting desperately to prevent the selection of white jurors.

The world awaits the verdict—a verdict vindicating or refusing to vindicate the honor of American womanhood.

The sentiment expressed by this great daily calls for suspension of law and order. Its open attack on the "sanctity of the law" borders on the ridiculous. Its advocacy of white men and women on a jury to try white men and women for murderous assaults falls of its own weight. If this paper is so charitable in its attitude towards American citizens on trial, home or abroad, why does it fail to advocate black men and women on juries to try black men and women accused of capital offenses?

If its present stand is correct in the Honolulu case, why didn't the Chicago Herald and Examiner turn suddenly "red" when eight black men in Scottsboro, Ala., were sentenced to death by a lily-white jury on the word of a whore? No black men were permitted to enter the jury box in this case to pass on the guilt or innocence of these black men.

According to the doctrines of the Herald and Examiner, Lieut, Massie and Mrs. Fortescue should be rewarded for murdering Kahahawai. White womanhood should't bear the burden and humiliation of being questioned in a court of law because of its misconduct, is the thought we get from this editorial.

When it becomes "irrelevant to speak of the sanctity of the law" lynchings will become the accepted procedure of punishing men merely accused of criminal acts; when it becomes "irrelevant to speak of the sanctity of the law" after white men kill a black or brown man, or criminally assault a black woman, our Constitution will become void both in purpose and in law, and will be but a valueless document.

Law and order can only be sustained through a pronounced and fixed opinion on what is crime and what is good behavior.

Newspapers are considered the medium through which is reflected the ideals of good government. They cannot compromise on crime whether the perpetrators be black or ite. Any chronicle of public opinion that ries from this principle establishes a dan-erous precedent and robs society of its great-st weapon of defense.

Minus the prejudice engendered through the method of approach to this Honolulu situation by the Herald and Examiner, we agree that there should be mixed juries, and if this principle is carried out it will have a wholesome effect in guaranteeing the black people of America an opportunity of enjoying the rights vouchsafed to them by the Constitution. And when their liberty is threatened they will be called to sit in judgment as jurors in matters affecting their Race.

We advocate mixed juries in Honolulu and also in Alabama, and we want the sanctity of the law strictly upheld.

Congregational Body Condemns Massie Pardon

East Tennessee News

NEW YORK CITY.—The home board of Congregational and Christian churches, in annual session here last Thursday, recorder itself as strongly opposed to the granting of a congressional pardon to the three navy men involved in the killing of Joseph Kahawai. and recommended their summary dismissal from the navy. The resolution adopted read as follows: 6/16/32

"Whereas, we believe that law, rigorously and impartially enforced, is the only possible foundation of a safe democracy, and that the defense of the honor of women, or men, cannot be secured by the substitution of private revenge for the orderly processes of law, we therefore protest against the possible pardoning of an officer of the navy, Lieut. Massie and his associates, convicted of the crime of manslaughter."

The resolution was presented by Rev. George L. Cady of New York, executive secretary of the American Missionary association, who said: "This is not a Hawaiian question. It strikes at the foundation of the institutions of our government. No man has the right to take the law into his own hand and execute it."

Dr. Clarence H. Wilson, former pastor of Central Union church, Honolulu, asserted that in the Hawaiian Islands "there is no racial issue except that which has bene made by the antagonism between the officers of the United States Navy and the people of the colored races; it is tragic to have had racial hatred introduced where it did not exist."

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Honolulu, Hawaii.

3659

Principals In Honor Slaying Trial

LIEUT. THOMAS H. MASSIE (lower left), his mother-in-law, Mrs. Granville Fortescue (lower right), New York and Washington society matron, and two U. S. Navy enlisted men go on trial for murder at Honolulu tomorrow charged with killing Joseph Kahahawai, one of five natives accused of assaulting Mrs. Massie. The defense is headed by Clarence Darrow (top right), famous Chicago criminal lawyer. The prosecutor is John C. Kelley (upper left). (Associated Press Photo.)

Four Americans Go On Trial Tomorrow In Honor Slaying

Advertiser

Montgomery Ala.

4-3-32

HONOLULU, April 2.—(AP)—In a temple of justice encircled by palm trees and armed policemen, Mrs. Granville H. Fortescue, society matron, and three men of the United States Navy will go on trial here Monday for the lynching of a young Hawaiian.

Although whatever racial feeling may have existed over the case apparently has subsided, and there has been no hint of disturbance, the police guard was ordered to go on duty during the session of the court.

Accused of the abduction and slaying last Jan. 8 of Joseph Kahahawai, one of five men held on charges of attacking Mrs. Fortescue's daughter, the society matron and her co-defendants, Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, and E. J. Lord and Albert O. Jones, enlisted men, will pin their faith in an array of counsel headed by Clarence Darrow. The noted Chicago attorney came out of retirement to lead the defense.

The public will be excluded from the little courtroom in which the quartet, indicted on a charge of second degree murder, will be tried. Circuit Judge Charles S. Davis announced standing would not be permitted. Holders of passes already issued will require all the seats available.

Crowds will not be permitted to gather around the building. Only the policemen, the palm trees, and a bronze statue of Kamethameha the First, Hawaii's greatest ruler, will stand watch.

Reinforcing Darrow on the defense are George S. Leisure, of Chicago, Lieut L. H. C. Johnson, of the Navy, and Montgomery Winn and Frank Thompson, Honolulu attorneys. John C. Kelley, newly-named public prosecutor, and Barry S. Ulrich, acting as assistant, will prosecute.

Because of the intense interest exhibited in the States, extraordinary preparations have been made to "cover" the trial for the newspapers. Radio equipment has been installed linking the courtroom directly with press association offices in San Francisco.

Both sides were wary of disclosing their hands as the time for the trial approached. Defense counsel indicated they would wait until the prosecution had outlined its case before drafting their line of defense.

Charged with attacking Mrs. Thalia Massie, daughter of the society matron and wife of Lieut. Massie, Kahahawai and four others were tried once but the jury disagreed. They were awaiting retrial when Kahahawai was lured out of this same Judiciary Building by a ruse and allegedly taken to the home of Mrs. Fortescue and shot to death.

Mrs. Fortescue, Lieut. Massie, and Lord, in a speeding automobile containing the body of Kahahawai, were captured by the police while headed for the ocean shore.

The attack and subsequent lynching together with numerous attacks upon women caused an outburst of public feeling which resulted in a governmental reorganization and several investigations.

In deference to Darrow, who will be 75 years old April 18, Judge Davis announced the court's sessions would be limited to three hours daily, beginning at 9 a.m. and ending at noon (1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Montgomery time).

Early End Predicted For Fortescue Trial

Constitution

4-9-32

Atlanta Ga

HONOLULU, April 8.—(AP)—A swift conclusion of the trial of Mrs. Granville Fortescue and three navy men accused of lynching Joseph Kahahawai was in prospect tonight as the result of hopes and plans of both prosecution and defense.

Although the possibility that alienists would be brought into the case appeared in the offing, John C. Kelley, public prosecutor, announced he would present his case in three days.

Hopes of the defense for a directed verdict of acquittal were voiced by Montgomery Winn, associate of Clarence Darrow, noted criminal attorney, leading the fight for the society woman and her three co-defendants.

A directed verdict would make it unnecessary for the defense to present any testimony.

Both Winn and Darrow declined to confirm or deny reports that Dr. Edward Huntington Williams and Dr. James Orbison, Los Angeles alienists, who arrived here yesterday, would be associated with the defense.

Honolulu Trial Resumes Today

Advertiser

4-11-32

Jury Of Six Nationalities To Hear Case Against Woman And Three Men

Montgomery Ala

HONOLULU, April 10.—(AP)—A jury composed of six nationalities tomorrow will begin hearing evidence in the trial of Mrs. Granville Fortescue, Eastern society matron, and three naval men charged with the lynching of Joseph Kahahawai, young Hawaiian.

Clarence Darrow, leader of the defense, refreshed by a swim at Waikiki Beach today, indicated he was ready for the prosecution to open.

There was no further hint today of the possible use by the defense of two alienists who arrived here Thursday from the mainland. They are Dr. Edward Huntington Williams and Dr. James Orbison, both of Los Angeles.

John C. Kelley, public prosecutor, indicated he was ready for alienists if the defense sought to prove Mrs. Fortescue and her companions were insane or temporarily unbalanced when they shot Kahahawai.

The Hawaiian was charged with a criminal attack on Mrs. Thalia Massie, daughter of Mrs. Fortescue and wife of Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, one of the defendants. Two naval enlisted men, E. J. Lord and Albert O. Jones, also are co-defendants, charged with assisting Massie and Mrs. Fortescue in killing Kahahawai.

It seemed certain today that his defense will ask a directed verdict of acquittal when the prosecution completes presentation of its evidence. So far as known, the evidence against the four is purely circumstantial. If there were witnesses to the shooting of the Hawaiian, the fact has not been made public.

The prosecution has realized the circumstantial nature of the case and apparently has been guided by that fact throughout selection of the jury. Kelley, in questioning veniremen, asked each if he was willing to convict on circumstantial evidence.

[illegible] legal fight that starts tomorrow [illegible] bring to light facts in [illegible] an unrest that has [illegible] Massie was attacked [illegible] high naval authori- [illegible] was unsafe for

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JURY COMPLETED FOR HAWAII TRIAL IN 'HONOR' KILLING

Constitution

4-8-32

Atlanta, Ga.

Six Whites Included in Group; Two Alienists Appear Mysteriously on Honolulu Scene.

BY RUSSELL OWEN.

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HONOLULU, April 7.—During the interval between today and Monday, when the trial of Mrs. Granville Fortescue, Lieutenant Thomas Massie and two navy enlisted men for the killing of Joseph Kahahawai, a native, will resume with the taking of testimony, the attorneys of both sides will be getting together the last threads of their cases and attempting to guess what the other side will do.

Two alienists have arrived mysteriously from San Francisco to aid the defense. Clarence Darrow shrugged his shoulders and laughed when he was asked what they were here for, and it is not known whether they will be asked to examine some of the defendants merely with the aim of determing the value of their testimony.

The belief is at present that the plans of the defense do not necessarily include these alienists, but that they were brought here in case they would be found necessary. If they are used, they may offer a problem for the prosecution, as there are no outstanding alienists in the islands.

Jury Completed.

The jury which will hear the case was completed unexpectedly just before noon today and an adjournment was taken until next week.

The jury as it now stands is looked upon as intelligent a group as could be obtained in the islands under the present system. It is largely white, with one part-Hawaiian, three Chinese and one Portuguese. Exactly half the jury is pure haole, or white as the prosecution showed no desire to rid the jury of all haoles, although most of its challenges were of white men.

The members of the jury are Shadford Waterhouse, Willy Beyer, Charles H. Strohlin, Theodore Bush, John F. Stone, Olaf Sorenson, all haoles; George Duncan McIntyre, part Hawaiian; Theodore C. H. Char, Charles Akana and Henry S. Y. Chang, Chinese; Edward A. Goeas, Portuguese, and Walter Napoleon, who has Hawaiian, Tahitian, French, Irish and Scotch mixed up in him and who speaks Japanese.

It was remarked later that seldom has a jury been formed in the islands with so many haoles, which is a rather unexpected result. The fact that less than a hundred men were called also was surprising.

It seemed early in the day as though the defense would accept the jury as it stood, and a conference took place in the judges' chambers. Darrow decided to challenge a young Chinese, and that upset the apple-cart for the state then began challenging. In short, a large number of potential jurors went through the subsequent examinations.

Harmony Prevails.

Astonishingly little acrimony has been shown in the case thus far, and both sides seem willing to meet each other half way. Prosecutor John C. Kelley and Darrow seem to understand each other perfectly. One of Kelley's opponents said today: "He is the most dangerous sort of prosecutor, because he is fair."

Nevertheless, there has been the keenest sort of competition between him and Darrow, who expressed himself at the close of today's session as completely satisfied with the jury.

There was a sudden outburst of opinions this morning among the jurors examined, and several were excused before George Duncan McIntyre was chosen. The prosecution then waived its first challenge of the day, and Darrow excused Kim Tai Lee, a well educated young Chinese. This proceeding prevented an immediate [illegible] as the prosecution had been ready to take the jury as it stood.

Constitution

William P. St. Clair took Lee's place, but subsequently was let out because he had formed an opinion. Theodore Bush, a civil engineer, formerly with the famous Bishop estate here, was next in the box. Kelley then challenged Douglas Alexander Cooke, member of an old island family, and his place was taken by John K. McCandless, who was let out because he had an opinion.

4-8-32

Atlanta

Joseph Kelly followed McCandless, but he was challenged by the prosecution. K. O. Kam, a Japanese who followed Kelly, had an unshakable opinion and was excused, to be followed by Peter K. McLean, a Scotsman with an unmistakable burr.

Ga.

Comedian Appears.

Darrow then challenged Francis Rosehill, part Hawaiian, and the prosecution got rid of Earl G. Hedemake. Antone S. Fraga, Portuguese plumber, was challenged by Darrow, and then came the day's comedian, named Robert Kin Hiu, Chinese.

It was perfectly evident that Hiu did not want to serve. He had formed a slight opinion, he said, and admitted he formed it the night before after being summoned. His answers seemed to amuse Albert O. Jones and E. J. Lord, the two navy enlisted men on trial with Mrs. Fortescue and Lieutenant Massie, and they laughed heartily for the first time since the proceedings began.

Kelley appealed to Hiu's American citizenship and asked him if he did not know one of the greatest privileges of citizenship was to sit on juries. Then Hiu was accepted tentatively, and McLean, the Scotchman, joined the procession from the box after being challenged by Kelley. Henry Chang, Chinese, took McLean's place. He was asked if he had an opinion, but as he hadn't formed it the day before, he was permitted to remain.

Chang wears his hair pompadour fashion, and there is an extraordinary distance between the edge of his eyelids and his eyebrows, which he constantly lifts upward as though making a tremendous effort to pull his eyelids open and keep awake. His answers, however, were alert enough.

American Educated.

Darrow then discarded Bernard Ahlo, Hawaiian, and he was followed by Theodore Char, Chinese, who said he had studied at Knox College and the Universities of Chicago and Illinois. He is an accountant. Char qualified, and Kelley challenged Barton Eveleth, who had been sitting two days in the foreman's seat.

Eveleth's place was taken by John Stone, secretary to one of the foremost business men of Honolulu. Darrow was apparently satisfied with the jury as it then stood, for he waived his next challenge and Kelley challenged the Chinese, Hiu, whose quickly formed opinion was against him.

The last man in the box was Walter Napoleon, of mixed ancestry, who frankly did not want to serve but whose honesty was so patent and naive that both sides smilingly agreed to take him. Napoleon immediately said he did not think he should serve because of his business.

"I can't side with one party or the other," he said, "because of my business, which is with the army and navy and all sorts of people."

He said he didn't own the business but was manager of a chain store and was interested only in his 30 per cent bonus. If he was a juror, he said, he was afraid somebody would get angry at him and the bonus would drop. But when he was reminded of his duties as a citizen he agreed he had never thought of it that way and would do his best.

Napoleon's Children.

Napoleon brought down the house when he was asked how many children he had and he said seven.

"Boys or girls?" asked Kelley.

"Half and half," said Napoleon, amid a roar of laughter.

He also gave out the interesting information that the manager of all the stores had issued orders after the murder of Kahahawai that employes were not to discuss the case among themselves or with customers. He was a bit hazy on opinions and said he hadn't any because:

"If anyone wanted to go out and commit crime, that's their business."

Napoleon's refreshing humor ended the day and the jury was accepted and sworn in. Judge Davis warned the jurors that after Monday morning they would be segregated during the remainder of the trial.

RICHARDSON'S REPORT AROUSES RESENTMENT

WASHINGTON, April 7.—(AP)—Governor Lawrence M. Judd, of Hawaii, today communicated to Secretary Wilbur vigorous opposition to recommendations of Assistant Attorney-General Richardson, terming them "a confiscation by congress of some of our most treasured rights of self-government."

Judd said that "to transfer to Washington the appointment of the territorial attorney-general and police head would result in divided authority between the governor and these officers with a resultant loss and not gain in efficiency and no centralized responsibility."

The Hawaiian governor quoted an editorial from the Honolulu Star Bulletin, published by former Governor Farrington, which said the Richardson report would have the United States treat Hawaii "as the British treat the people of India or Egypt."

"His report strikes at the very vitals to destroy American self-government," it continued. "It is another wedge to make bureaucracy of federal government triumphant. Its purpose is not to foster self-government. Its purpose is to destroy self-government."

In another quotation from the Star Bulletin Judd said there was "no more justification for the proposal for the president to name the attorney-general of Hawaii or the territorial chief of police of Hawaii than there is for the president to name the attorney-general of California or New Mexico or to name the chief of the state police of the sovereign state of Pennsylvania or New York."

Judd asserted that self-government should be fostered in Hawaii and not hindered and maintained that "the findings do not justify the conclusion that our citizens of many racial ancestries have failed to perform their duties at least as well as citizens on the mainland."

"I respectfully urge," he said, "that Hawaii be accorded the confidence to which she is entitled and that we be permitted to solve our own problems in the usual American way."

Secretary Wilbur made Judd's telegram public without comment. He said yesterday, however, that the Richardson report had shown "a high degree of law observance and capacity for self-government" in Hawaii.

Judd said the relations with the army and navy in Honolulu were satisfactory and that the report as a whole revealed the city and the islands to be as clean and normal as any mainland community.

DARROW'S ILLNESS POSTPONES TRIAL

Constitution
4-16-32

Prosecution Will Demand Immediate Plea If Insanity Is Defense.

Atlanta
Ga.

HONOLULU, April 15.—(AP)—A move to force the defense to reveal immediately just which one of the four accused persons would plead insanity and admit killing Joseph Kahahawai was made by the prosecution today as the trial came to a temporary halt because of the illness of Clarence Darrow, noted criminal lawyer.

The postponement interrupted the dramatic story of Lieutenant Thomas H. Massie, one of the accused, whom Darrow had called to the stand with the announcement that one of the four defendants would confess the fatal shooting during a moment of insanity.

John C. Kelley, public prosecutor, said today he would insist at the resumption of the case tomorrow that the defense show its hand.

The court session was abandoned when George S. Leisure, associate defense attorney, announced Darrow had become ill of indigestion during the night.

Six witnesses were summoned today by the defense. They were Eugene H. Beebe, attorney, who at one time was engaged by the Honolulu Chamber of Commerce to assist in prosecuting the five men accused of assaulting Mrs. Massie. Beebe later was dismissed.

Dr. Paul Withington, who performed an operation on Mrs. Massie after the attack.

Beatrice Nakamura, Mrs. Massie's maid.

Samuel G. Stewart, retired army captain and friend of the Massies.

Dr. Irving Blom, who previously had occupied the house in which Mrs. Fortescue was living at the time Kahahawai was slain. The young Hawaiian apparently was killed in this house.

Major Gordon Ross, head of the territorial police.

In addition it was indicated other defendants besides Massie might testify.

Dr. James Orbison and Dr. Edward Huntington Williams, Los Angeles alienists, previously had appeared in the witness room on defense summonses.

Constitution

The defense indicated the insanity defense would be furthered by the testimony of Stewart as a lay witness, telling of how Massie allegedly had been subject to mental aberration after the attack on his wife.

4-16-32

Blom, it was learned, was expected to give testimony against any theory of premeditation in the killing. It was indicated he would testify that a tarpaulin used to wrap the body of Kahahawai was left at the house by him when he moved away. The body was wrapped in sheets when found by police, but officers testified there was a tarpaulin in the rear seat of the death car.

Atlanta Ga.

Honolulu Prosecution Seeks To Force Defense To Show Its Hand

Advertiser 4-16-32

HONOLULU, April 15.—(AP)—A move to force the defense to reveal immediately just which one of the four accused persons would plead insanity and admit killing Joseph Kahahawai was made by the prosecution today as the trial came to a temporary halt because of the illness of Clarence Darrow, noted criminal lawyer.

Montgomery, Ala.

The postponement interrupted the dramatic story of Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, one of the accused, whom Darrow had called to the stand with the announcement that one of the four defendants would confess the fatal shooting during a moment of insanity.

Massie's testimony of the criminal attack last September on his wife, in which Kahahawai allegedly participated, indicated the young navy officer would shoulder the responsibility for the shooting, but Darrow did not specifically say so.

John C. Kelly, public prosecutor, said today he would insist at the resumption of the case tomorrow that the defense show its hand.

The court session was abandoned when George S. Leisure, associate defense attorney, announced Darrow had become ill of indigestion during the night.

Because of Darrow's age—He is in his 75th year—Court sessions thus far have been limited to three hours a day, from 9 a.m., until noon with 10-minute recesses every hour.

Lieut. Commander J. E. Porter, who examined Darrow, said the veteran attorney probably would be on hand tomorrow.

The postponement was a disappointment to about 100 persons who had been standing in line nearly all night in order to get seats at the opening of the session. Most of these were white women.

Some of those in the line had bought their positions for as high as $10.

Massie and the other defendants, Mrs. Granville Fortescue, Albert, O. Jones, and E. J. Lord, were waiting at the judiciary building when Judge Charles S. Davis announced the postponement.

Mrs. Fortescue, who had wept openly yesterday while Massie, her son-in-law, told of the attack, appeared composed but obviously had attained her serenity at the expense of great effort.

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Honolulu, Hawaii.

3660

Jury Holds Fate Of Americans In Honolulu Trial

Advertiser

4-28-32

Cosmopolitan Group Gets Case After Impassioned Pleas By Darrow, Kelley

Montgomery, Ala.

Instructions Given

Defendants Guilty If They Planned Kidnaping Of Native, Judge Declares

HONOLULU, April 27.—(AP)—The racially mixed jury considering the fate of Lieut. Thomas H. Massie and three others charged with the lynching of Joseph Kahahawai resumed deliberations at 7:40 o'clock tonight (12:10 a.m., Thursday, Montgomery time), after a two-hour recess for dinner. Previously it had deliberated an hour and 40 minutes.

HONOLULU, April 27.—(AP)—After one hour and 40 minutes of deliberating, the jury in the Joseph Kahahawai lynching trial went to dinner at 4:40 p.m. (10:10 p.m., Montgomery time.) Judge Charles S. Davis instructed it to return and resume deliberations at 7:45 p.m. (12:15 a.m. Thursday, Montgomery time). The court announced it would wait until 10 o'clock tonight for a possible verdict (2:30 a.m. Thursday Montgomery time.)

HONOLULU, April 27.—(AP)—Twelve men of varied racial origin tonight began deliberating the fate of Lieut. Thomas H. Massie and three other persons charged with second degree murder in the lynching of Joseph Kahahawai.

Freshly impressed on their minds were the pleadings of Clarence Darrow, who asked for vindication of the quartet accused of killing the young native for vengeance, and the fiery words of public Prosecutor John C. Kelley, who demanded conviction after giving Massie a verbal lashing and asserting all Hawaii was on trial in the case.

Circuit Judge Charles S. Davis instructed that it was necessary for the prosecution to have proved the defendants, Massie, his mother-in-law, Mrs. Granville Fortescue, and two navy enlisted men, Albert O. Jones and E. J. Lord killed Kahahawai and also that they had intended to kill him in order to justify a second degree murder verdict.

Conspiracy Explained

Judge Davis ruled, however, that it would be unnecessary for the prosecution to have shown the defendants intended to kill the native if it had shown the defendants entered into an agreement to commit a criminal act, of which the slaying was a reasonable consequence.

The court ruled that if the defendants conspired, last Jan. 7, the day before the slaying, to kill the native suspected of having attacked Mrs. Thalia Massie, wife of the naval officer, or had conspired to threaten him with a pistol or kidnap him and as a result of such conspiracy Kahahawai was slain, all were guilty of murder or manslaughter, even though one of the defendants was insane when he shot him.

This ruling referred to the defense contention that Massie, who admitted firing the shot, had a sudden attack of insanity the moment he stood before the native with a pistol and heard Kahahawai supposedly admit the attack on his wife.

The jurors were instructed that if they found Massie killed Kahahawai and was insane at that time, and if they believed Massie had not planned the killing, then they could not find any of the defendants guilty unless the prosecution had proved the defendants had conspired to do things in which a reasonable consequence would be Kahahawai's death.

Burden of Proof on State

Judge Davis told the jury that if a plea of insanity had been introduced, the burden of proof was on the prosecution to show the defendant sane. He instructed them to bring in a separate verdict for each defendant.

The court reminded the 12 men that "no man may take the law into his own hands, and the alleged fact that the deceased ravaged the wife of one of the defendants cannot be considered."

The judge instructed that evidence regarding the assault on Mrs. Massie could be considered wholly for its bearing on Massie's mental state.

Judge Davis said the jury could bring in a verdict of guilty as charged, of second degree murder; guilty of manslaughter; or acquittal as regards all but Massie, but for him, guilty as charged, guilty of manslaughter, or not guilty on account of insanity, or not guilty.

As the jury retired the court room was cleared and the defendants went to a hotel to await reports on the deliberations.

The penalty for second degree murder is 20 years to life imprisonment, and that for manslaughter, 10 years' imprisonment.

Advertiser

Darrow's Plea to Jurors

In his plea to the jurors Darrow asked them to apply the golden rule, imagining themselves in the positions of the accused. He pleaded that a conviction would "place a blot on these fair islands that not all the waters of the Pacific can wash away."

4-28-32

In a searing denunciation of Massie, Kelley again hinted his belief the officer did not tell the truth on the witness stand when he testified he shot Kahahawai just after the native supposedly had confessed attacking Mrs. Thalia Massie, his wife.

"He couldn't hide behind the skirts of his mother-in-law, (Mrs. Fortescue)" said Kelley hotly, "nor behind the two sailors who helped him."

Kelley painted Massie as a "vain egotistical man who has been the cause of trouble." He said Massie was "high" the night of the party after which Mrs. Massie was attacked.

"The best you can say for him," shouted Kelley as he marched up and down in front of the jury, "is that he lied like a gentleman."

Asserting all Hawaii was on trial in the case, Kelley closed his fiery appeal with these words:

"Without being swayed by mercy or by admirals—for in the language of Smedley Butler I say 'to hell with the admirals'!—there is no reason why you should not bring in an unanimous verdict of guilty. We do not ask for vengeance—only justice."

Unwritten Law Pleaded

For more than three hours Darrow pleaded the insanity and unwritten law features of the defense.

Belying his 75 years by his strong voice and vigorous gestures, the defender asserted Massie and the other defendants had been enmeshed in a web of circumstances not of their own making and that they were not to be blamed for the tragedy.

He asserted that if the four were sent to prison "it won't be the first time a prison has been sanctified by its inmates."

He bitterly attacked Dr. Joseph Catton, prosecution alienist, who contradicted the defense testimony that Massie became insane when he fired the fatal shot after hearing Kahahawai confess attacking Mrs. Massie.

With Darrow's conclusion, Kelley took up the argument. Judge Charles S. Davis's instructions to the jury followed.

Through the storm of words, Massie sat with set lips and chin resting on his fingers. At the other end of a long row of chairs Kahahawai's mother and father, their heads bowed, wept.

Parents of Lynch Victim May Get $5,000

[illegible]

HONOLULU, (CNS)— According to the provisions of a bill, just introduced in the Territorial Legislature, the parents of Joseph Kahahawai, lynched by four Americans, [illegible] by Lieut. Massie, will, if the bill becomes a law, receive $5,000.

MASSIES ARRIVE FROM HONOLULU

Telegraph

Mrs. Fortescue Goes on to New York, Officer and Wife to Kentuc[illegible]

5-14-32

SAN FRANCISCO, May 13 (AP)—With a defiant glance toward the past and hoping the future will prove more kind, the four principals of the recent honor slaying trial in Honolulu arrived here Friday aboard the liner Malolo.

Macon Ga.

On the deck of the steamer, as it came into the dock was Lieutenant Thomas H. Massie. On his right was his young wife, Thalia, and on his left was Clarence Darrow, veteran lawyer who defended them.

They had just bid farewell to Mrs. Granville Fortescue, socially prominent mother of Mrs. Massie, who left the ship in a naval launch to connect with an eastbound plane and join her husband in New York.

Massie, Mrs. Fortescue and two seamen, E. J. Lord and Albert O. Jones, were convicted of manslaughter in connection with the slaying of Joseph Kahahawai, accused of attacking Mrs. Massie last September.

Mrs. Fortescue Is Defiant

Sentences of 10 years each at hard labor were commuted to an hour by Governor Lawrence M. Judd, of Hawaii. They were confident Friday, that full pardon shortly would be forthcoming.

A gesture of defiance came from Mrs. Fortescue.

"I have no regrets for what happened in Honolulu," she said. "We rejoice now that it is all over and that we are free."

None of them would discuss the trial but all were willing to discuss their future plans.

"Thalia and I are concentrating on the future now," Massie said, "and mine is largely in the hands of the bureau of navigation. What we want to do more than anything else is to slip away for a few days and visit with my mother at Winchester, Ky."

The other two defendants in the trial, Jones and Lord, are en route to San Pedro on another ship.

MRS. MASSIE'S SWIMMING TEACHER!

The Union

REMARKS

By William Pickens,

(For The Associated Negro Press.)

6-2-32

Cincinnati, Ohio.

About that Hawaiian lynching; a few things that the newspapers did not tell you. Kahahawai, the youth that was murdered by the Massie gang, had been Mrs. Massie's swimming teacher,—a great swimmer of the Islands, much in favor. The swimming teachers among the natives are very much sought after by the visitors.

That is perhaps why they picked on Kahahawai rather than on any one of the other four who were accused of rape; that boy perhaps knew too much—and it is my guess that his defiance, and perhaps his threat to tell got him killed when they were bullying him in the Massie home,—or whenever it was they manslaughtered" him.

MASSIE CASE REPORT MAY REOPEN PROBE

Constitution

9-16-32

Atlanta, Ga.

HONOLULU, Sept. [illegible] (AP)—Prosecutor John C. Kelley left for New York last night to receive a report made by detectives both in Hawaii and the United States, which may reopen the cases against four men charged with assault upon Mrs. Thalia Massie, wife of a United States naval officer.

Kelley said the cases against the men would be reopened if the facts contained in the report warrant. The report is to be submitted to Lawrence M. Judd, governor of the islands, and to Attorney-General Harry Hewitt, of Hawaii.

MRS. MASSIE EXITS.

Age 5-21-32
New York N.Y.

Mrs. Thalia Massie, for reasons best known to herself, does not desire to push the charge of rape she has preferred against four Hawaiians. So she made a dramatic exit from Honolulu, aided by the U. S. Navy. In attempting to elude subpoena servers she boarded the S. S. Malolo, bound for San Francisco, through a cargo port. Like a football player, she ducked and dodged through kitchen and pantry, and was three decks below when apprehended by Hawaiian representatives of the law.

Police Officer Dewey Mookini accuses Capt. Ward K. Wortman, commander of the submarine base, wth assaulting him when he tried to serve Mrs. Massie. Spectators say Wortman pushed Mookini out of the way while Mrs. Massie ran past and made for her stateroom.

Wortman explains: "There was no confusion. It was so crowded in the corridor that I couldn't help bumping into him."

Rear Admiral Yates Stirling, Jr., commandant at the Pearl Harbor Naval Base, has no intention of investigating the charge that naval officers tried to prevent a subpoena service on Mrs. Massie. The report made to him was that Capt. Wortman merely insisted that Clarence Darrow be present.

The dialogue between Capt. Wortman and Police Officer Mookini when the former objected to the serving of papers on Mrs. Massie according to the daily press, was as follows:

Mookini: "You can't give me orders."

Wortman: "Say, 'Sir,' when you speak to me.

Mookini: "You say, 'Sir,' to me then. I am entitled to the same respect.

Wortman: (Sarcastically) "Yes, you are entitled to some respect."

It will be remembered that Capt. Wortman gave evidence of his good breeding and respect for the law when, in open court directly after Massie and the three co-defendants had been convicted of manslaughter by the jury, he told Public Prosecutor Kelley that he (Kelley), "knew damned little."

A San Francisco yellow journal published a yarn about Horace Ide, one of the five men accused by Mrs. Massie, of having made a confession to the nine naval men who kidnapped him on December 12. But Ide denies as vehemently as did Joseph Kahahawai, whom Lieut. Massie murdered, that any such confession was ever given.

Public Prosecutor Kelley announces he will start the trial of the four natives in the Circuit Court on May 25. If Mrs. Massie is not present he will issue a warrant for her arrest, althouogh he knows it will be unenforceable, due to lack of jurisdiction.

Mrs. Massie's strange conduct in abruptly leaving Honolulu and her unwillingness to appear against the men upon whom she cast a cloud of suspicion, is puzzling and beyond understanding. Perhaps the astute Clarence Darrow thinks the less said of the incident, which has aroused racial antagonisms and created a wide breach between civil authorities and service men on the island, the better.

Admiral Stirling, Capt. Wortman, Lieut. Massie, the two enlisted men convicted with Lieut. Massie of slaying Kahahawai, and the nine enlisted men who kidnapped Horace Ide, may be promoted or disciplined for their acts of commission or omission, all depending on the point of view of official Washington. Nevertheless, this one observation is inescapable: That unless President Hoover and the Secretary of the Navy see to it that the navy men stationed in the Hawaiian Islands recognize the power and authority of the civil authorities and display a greater respect for law and order than they have in the past, serious consequences are inevitable.

THE MURDERERS ARE WORRIED

Courier 10-15-32
Pittsburgh Pa.

LIEUTENANT and Mrs. Thomas H. Massie and his mother, Mrs. Fortesque, are somewhat perturbed these days, even though their trial for the murder of Kahahawai is over and they have been permitted to go free without atoning for their brutal crime.

It seems that Governor Lawrence M. Judd of Hawaii and Prosecutor John Kelly, eager to get more information about the alleegd rape of Mrs. Massie in order to proceed with the trial of the four surviving young men accused of the deed, hired the Pinkerton National Detective Agency to get some more facts for the prosecution.

In their characteristic manner, the Pinkertons got busy. The report of their operative, one John C. Fraser, is understood to "cast grave doubts on the guilt of the four surviving natives."

Eager to head off the truth, the Massies, Fortesques and their naval friends and Ku Kluxish sympathizers in Hawaii, now come forward with a ridiculous story about three sailors having seen the alleged abduction of Mrs. Massie by the five accused young men. The reason why they didn't report this at the time was because they were riding in a truck they had stolen from the navy and so were afraid to speak.

Thus, we are asked to believe that three stalwart white men stood by and saw a white woman abducted by five natives and did nothing about it whatever. Just kept their mouths closed for fear of saving their own skins.

If this be the type of men we have in the navy, it will go hard with America in the next war. But of course we know this story is cut out of the whole cloth in a frightened effort to keep the terrible truth of the whole case from being made public.

It will do no good to produce phoney witnesses. The Massies and Fortesques have had their day in court, and though let free, they are condemned as liars and murderers in the eyes of the world. This Pinkerton information will further damn them if and when it is published.

Honolulu, Hawaii.

3661

Lynchings-1932
6

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

THE HAWAIIAN SITUATION.

Developments in Hawaii since the Massie-Fortescue trial seem to be strengthening ~~the opposition~~ Constitution to any immediate change in the present form of government of the islands.

Now that the excitement incident to the trial, its verdict and the commutation of the sentence by Governor Judd has subsided, calm consideration of conditions existing prior to the tragic attack on Mrs. Massie, and the steps which have been taken to clear up an unfortunate local political situation is possible.

Before the Massie attack occurred there had been a general breakdown in the forces of law and order, with a resultant growth of defiance on the part of a minority of the polyglot races comprising the islands' population. 6-15-32

At the request of the leading citizens of Honolulu Governor Judd called the islands' legislature into immediate session, at which new laws were enacted which resulted in the naming of competent heads for the detection and prosecution of criminals. Atlanta Ga.

Under the law of Honolulu a manslaughter conviction is pardonable, while a recommendation of mercy accompanying such a conviction makes suspension of sentence mandatory. Neither is possible in the case of a second degree murder conviction.

It is now known that the jury when it became evident an acquittal was not possible, decided upon the manslaughter conviction which would have the double result of giving immediate freedom to the accused and avoid the danger of a second trial before another jury which might bring in a second degree murder verdict, with its obligatory penitentiary sentence.

Thus, it is revealed, with the passing of the excitement and passion incident to the attack and the trial, that Hawaii itself has acted promptly and firmly towards eradicating the troubles responsible for the breakdown of law and order and that the verdict was the result of calm deliberation and not of racial [illegible]

So it seems only fair that any steps looking to the taking away of self-government from the islands should be held in abeyance until it is established whether the corrective moves made will be successful in curbing the lawless element responsible for the crime wave which for so many months blackened the fair name of these beauty islands of the Pacific.

Particularly is this advisable since among the business and financial leaders of the islands are many men representing the highest type of American citizenship. Many of them are long-time residents of the islands.

They have taken the lead in the movement to clean the island government of objectionable features and weak spots and they should be given reasonable opportunity to restore peace, security and good government.

If they should not be successful it will be time enough for the government to step in and take control, but in the meantime interference from the mainland will be a handicap instead of [illegible]

N.A.A.C.P. ASKS COURT MARTIAL FOR MASSIE

Organization Asks President and Navy Secretary to Try Man

CAN'T UPHOLD WILFUL MURDER

Failure Will Make U.S. Party to Crime.

6/11/32

NEW YORK.—No court martial for Lieutenant Thomas H. Massie, a[illegible] enlisted men, Edward J. Lord and Albert O. Jones, because of their conviction in a civil court of lynching a native of Hawaii, Joseph Kahahawai, is asked in formal letters sent to President Hoover and Secretary of the Navy Charles Francis Adams, by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

"The conduct of these three men in lynching Joseph Kahahawai in Hawaii," says the N.A.A.C.P. letters, "for which crime they were duly convicted and served a wholly inadequate sentence, is a most serious breach of discipline. The continuance of Lieutenant Massie and the two sailors in the navy could not be construed in any other way than as official upholding by the United States Government of their action in engaging in cold-blooded lynching.

Were Found Guilty

"Certain facts are indisputable. Lieutenant Massie and enlisted men Lord and Jones were both duly found guilty of the crime of murder and served a sentence. There has ben no denial of their guilt, nor has there been any denial that Massie conspired with the two enlisted men, whose discipline it was his duty to maintain, to commit the crime of kidnapping and later to indulge in murder.

"In urging such disciplinary action, this association knows that many white Americans join in the demand for court martial proceedings with the end in view of expulsion of Massie, Lord and Jones from the navy or any other government position. In making this request, this association is not lacking in sympathy for Mrs. Massie and does not wish in any way to bring that aspect of the matter into consideration of the request for court martial procedure.

Were Under Oath

"Regardless of the circumstances which led to the kidnapping and murder, these three men had taken a solemn oath to uphold the law and Constitution of the United States Government. These laws have been violated and these individuals have been duly convicted by a court of law of such violation. To permit them to remain in the service of the United States will be unequivocal and admitted approval by the Government and people of the United States of lynching, of the taking of the law into one's own hands, and of shameless flouting of legal procedure."

The N.A.A.C.P. is urging upon colored churches, fraternal orders, clubs, political organizations and individuals, that they write the Secretary of the Navy and to President Hoover as commander-in-chief of the nation's armed forces, urging court martial for the three navy men. Copies of these letters should be sent to the N.A.A.C.P. at 69 Fifth Avenue. New York City.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AGAINST MASSIE PARDON

NEW YORK—The principle that impartial and equal justice and protection must be afforded all races by both the civil and the armed forces of the nation, was upheld at the semi-annual meeting of the home board of the Congregational and Christian Churches in a resolution strongly protesting against thhe proposed CoCngressional pardon for Lieut. P. H.H Massie, E. J. Lorod and A. O. Jones of the Navy, and for Mrs. [illegible] Fortescue.

6/1/32

The board comprises the directors of the national missionary, educational and benevolent agencies of the united demonstraiton. The resolution was adopted during the afternoon session on Wednesday, May 25, at the semi-annual meeting in the Congregational and Christian headquarters, 287 Fourth Aveue, New York, N.Y.

Similar action against a pardon for Lieutenant Massie and his associates was taken earlier this month by the Conferences of the Congregational Churches of the State of New York and of Southern California.

The resolution was presented on behalf of the administrative committee of the American Missionary Association, one of the agencies of the home board, by its executive secretary, the Rev. George Luther Cady, D.D., of New York City. The chairman of the afternoon session was the Rev. H. Shelton Smith, Ph.D., vice-president of the board and head of the department of religious education of Duke University, Durham, N.C.

Dr. Cady said: "This is not a Hawaiian question. It strikes at the foundations of the institutions of our government. No man has the right to take the law into his own hands and execute it."

Boston Man Opposes

The resolution was vigorously opposed by Ethelbert V. Grabill, lawyer, of Boston, Mass., who held it represented an ill-advised interference into a judicial matter.

Navy Officers Blamed

The Rev. Clarence H. Wilson D.D., formerly of Glen Ridge, N.J. and until recently paster of the Central Union Church, Honolulu H.I. asserted that in the Hawaiian Islands "there is no racial issue except that which has been made by the antagonism between the officers of the Navy and the people of the colored races" and that "it is tragic to have had racial hatred introduced where it did not exist."

Major Problem

The Rev. Robert W. Coe, D.D., pastor of the Leyden Church, Brookline, Mass., declared: "The question of race relations is a major problem of our times. We must speak in no uncertain terms when principles which should prevail in race relations are flaunted by those whom we expect to uphold the law."

The Rev. Oscar E. Maurer, D.D. pastor of First Church, New Haven Conn., reminded the board that the American Missionary Association had had "a great part in the development of the Hawaiian people" and said "we must not go back on them and fail to express ourselves at this time concerning an incident which has outraged many of us."

Only One Law

George E. Haynes, Ph.D., of New York City, executive secretaryy of the Commission on Race Relations, Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, said:

"In the minds of the colored people not only of America but also of India, Africa and the whole world, there is being raised the question whether there is one law for white people and another for colored; whether the women of one group are to be protected and the women of the other group are not to be protected. We ought to go on record that there should be only one law for both white and colored."

Rebuke Secreta Of Navy For Pardo In Massie Traged

Courier

6-18-32 Pittsburgh, Pa.

NEW YORK, June 16—The Secretary of the Navy, Charles Francis Adams, has written a letter to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in which he deprecates further agitation of the case against Lieut. Massie and the two enlisted men of the Navy who lynched a Hawaiian.

The N. A. A. C. P. has promptly countered with a letter to Secretary Adams pointing out that to retain these men in the Navy is to "surrender every semblance of moral courage and principle on the part of the United States Government."

In his letter although he said he "appreciated the force of much that" the N. A. A. C. P. said in urging a court martial for these men, Secretary Adams stated his belief that "the Government and people of the United States feel that the disposition of this case, which has taken place, is what may be termed a reasonable compromise, and promotes good relations between your people and mine, if a distinction of that sort may properly be made."

The N. A. A. C. P. letter calls this statement a "startling revelation" on the part of a member of the famous Adams family and an officer of the government and states its belief that many white as well as colored people "not only do not feel that to permit Massie and the two enlisted men to remain in the U. S. service is a reasonable compromise, but instead regard it as a shameless and indefensible surrender to the basest of race prejudice and mob violence on the part of the United States Government."

Big Religious Bodies Hit 'Whitewash' of 'Honor' Slayers

Chicago Defender 6-4-32

~~6-4-32~~

NEW YORK, June 3.—The principle that impartial and equal justice and protection must be afforded all races by both the civil and the armed forces of the nation was upheld at the semi-annual meeting of the home board of the Congregational and Christian churches in a resolution strongly protesting against the proposed congressional pardon for Lieut. P. H. Massie, E. J. Lord and A. O. Jones of the navy and for Mrs. G. R. Fortescue.

The board comprises the directors of the national missionary, educational and benevolent agencies of the united denomination. The resolution was adopted during the afternoon session on Wednesday, May 25, at the semiannual meeting in the Congregational and Christian headquarters, 287 Fourth Ave., New York. Similar action against a pardon for Lieutenant Massie and his associates was taken earlier this month by the conferences of the Congregational churches of the state of New York and of southern California.

Adopt Resolution

The resolution adopted by the home board was:

"Whereas we believe that law rigorously and impartially enforced is the only possible foundation of a safe democracy and that the defense of the honor of women or men cannot be secured by the substitution of private revenge for the orderly processes of law, we therefore protest against the possible pardoning of an officer of the navy, Lieutenant Massie, and his associates, convicted of the crime of manslaughter.

"We urge that every power should be exerted to apprehend and convict those who committed the unspeakable crime of assault and if convicted that they be brought to adequate punishment. We further urge the immediate dismissal from the navy of those members of the navy who participated in the killing of Kahahawaii, the accused Hawaiian, thus rendering themselves unfit to serve this arm of our nation whose chief function ought to be to uphold and defend the majesty of the law and keep inviolate the integrity of the courts."

A. M. A. Interested

The resolution was presented on behalf of the administrative committee of the American Missionary association, one of the agencies of the home board, by its executive secretary, Rev. George Luther Cady of New York city. The chairman of the afternoon session was Rev. H. Shelton Smith, vice president of the board and head of the department of religious education of Duke university, Durham, N. C.

Dr. Cady said:

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Hoover Told That Massie is a Confessed Muderer

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

Washington Branch of N.A.A.C.P. Asks for Court-Martial of Slayers of Hawaiian in Celebrated "Honor Killing."

WASHINGTON.—Making a complaint that Lieutenant Massie, confessed murderer of a Hawaiian in the now notorious "honor slaying," is being idolized by the government rather than censured, the local branch of the N.A.A.C.P., in a letter to President Hoover asks for a court martial of the officer and his accomplices in crime.

The letter, written by H. E. Barnett, says in part: 7/9/32

'Lieutenant Massie carried with him to Honolulu the Southern principle used against Negroes. His act was deliberate and well-planned. He not only confessed the committing of the crime, but secured the men under his command to aid and abet him and his mother-in-law in murdering Kahahawai.

Is Confessed Murderer

"As a confessed murderer, Lieutenant Massie was received back on his ship, transferred to another and rushed to the United States, where [illegible] to obtain a pardon from the governor of his state and the President of the United States. In this heinous crime he is lauded for having done an 'honorable deed'

"The Navy Department is silent while some members of Congress are venting their spleen against the territory of Hawaii. It would not be surprising if he is given a gold medal for his 'honor killing.' Such an offense, committed by an officer of the U.S. Navy, should not be allowed to go unrebuked and Lieutenant Massie and his men should be court-martialed and cashiered. To be permitted to continue in the service unrebuked is to license every other man in it to do as he has done.

Up to Hoover.

"The " Navy Department ought to 'The Navy Department ought to exercise strict discipline of its men, who offend and the local branch of the N.A.A.C.P. asks that you, as commander-in-chief of the Army and Navy, see to it that this is done and prevent the country's being made a laughing stock for the civilized world."

PROTEST RESTORATION OF CITIZENSHIP

To Members of Hawaiian Lynching Party

Savannah Tribune
7-30-32

New York, June 24—Massachusetts branches of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People are protesting to Governor Joseph P. Ely against restoration of citizenship rights to Albert O. Jones, enlisted man, convicted with Lieut. Thomas H. Massie of the lynching of Joseph Kahahawai.

Savannah Ga.

Jones made application for this restoration recently and N. A. A. C. P. branches in Boston, Springfield, Berkshire County, and Worcester have been asked to oppose such action.

Theodore M. Berry, president of the Cincinnati Branch, has written Ohio Representatives in Congress, protesting against a bill introduced by Representative Britten of Illinois, which would place Hawaii under a naval or military governor; and opposing "any proposition introduced to pardon Lieut. Massie and his associates for the crime committed in Hawaii." "Such a pardon by Congress," says Mr. Berry's letter, "would be an unequivocal validation of the idea, that the law has no force or meaning as applied to white men in their crimes against darker people."

Massie the Lyncher Reports For Duty At Philly Navy Yard

Courier
7-2-32

PHILADELPHIA, June 30—(CNS) — Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, one of the four convicted murderers in the recent Hawaiian lynching case has reported to the Philadelphia Navy Yard for duty. He was assigned to the New Mexico, undergoing modernization.

Upon his arrival he told his superior, Capt. H. C. Cocke, that he was glad to be there and would work hard. Mrs. Massie accompanied him to Philadelphia where she will remain while her husband is on duty here.

Numerous civic and religious organizations including the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People have filed protests against the failure of the Navy Department to order the three convicted murderers tried by court martial.

Secretary of the Navy, Chas. Francis Adams refused to consider the protests, stating that he felt a "reasonable compromise" had been reached in the matter.

Massie Assault Case Not Closed

Telegraph

Detective to Present His Report On Oct. 3

9-11-32

HONOLULU, Sept. 10 (AP)—The Ala Moana assault case involving Mrs. Thalia Massie, wife of Naval Lieut. Thomas Massie, may be reopened next Oct. 3, Honolulu authorities revealed Saturday.

Macon Ga.

On that date H. C. Fraser, private detective who has conducted an inquiry into the case, will submit his report to territorial governor, Lawrence M. Judd, in New York. Territorial Attorney General Harry Hewitt and John C. Kelley, Honolulu prosecutor, will be with the governor when he receives the report.

Fraser investigated the case in Honolulu for two months while other operatives of the same detective agency conducted a similar inquiry on the mainland regarding Mrs. Granville Fortescue, mother of Mrs. Massie, and three others convicted of manslaughter for the slaying of Joseph Kahahawai, one of five men suspected of assaulting the young wife of the naval lieutenant. Governor Judd commuted the sentence of Mrs. Fortescue, Lieutenant Massie and two naval enlisted men to one hour in custody.

Lynchings-1932
&
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Honolulu, Hawaii.

3662

Honolulu in Rebellion Over Massie Case

Chicago Defender 5/7/32

By TOGA CHAN
[Chicago Defender Foreign News Service]

HONOLULU, May 4. — Unexpected developments in the famous Massie case took a sudden turn here today when Laurence M. Judd, governor general of Honolulu, pardoned Massie and the three other defendants in the Kahahawai lynching case.

No sooner had Governor Judd issued his secret pardon giving the Massies their freedom than the island was aflame and heavy guard was rushed to protect the governor. And when the full import of its meaning dawned upon the people, the Hawaiian police refused to protect him and naval forces were called out to aid in the situation.

Trouble flamed anew here last night when natives held meetings in protest to the governor's action. They plan to ask his removal for the sake of peace and harmony in the land. Nothing has happened in Honolulu in recent years that has so upset the relationships between America and her possessions as the miscarriage of justice in the Massie case, unless perhaps it was civil war!

Massie Flees

So serious was the opposition in the turn of affaris in this case that Massie and the rest of the defendants had to be spirited out of town and placed aboard a war vessel for their protection.

Governor Refused Guard

Since the miscarraige of justice has so wrecked the honest decision of a jury, it is declared here that there will be no trial of the native defendants in the alleged rape case. It is being loudly proclaimed that Clarence Darrow, famous lawyer, is hurrying the Massies out of town for fear that the actual truth of the supposed "rape" will be disclosed.

Leading white citizens have never believed Kahahawai committed the crime. He was known as an upstanding young man of high character and was well educated.

Whatever regard the Hawaiians had for America, racial prejudice engendered in this case has washed it away. This tragedy of America's idea of law and order in Honolulu will take centuries to be forgotten.

It is the prevailing idea here that America has two kinds of laws—one for the rich and socially prominent and members of the navy, and another for the people of whatever port its navy may happen to anchor.

Massie's Citizenship Restored by Laffoon

Constitution
6-1-33

FRANKFORT, Ky., May 31.—(AP) Lieutenant Thomas H. Massie was restored to full citizenship in an order issued here today by Governor Ruby Laffoon.

The naval lieutenant, who with his mother-in-law, Mrs. Granville Fortescue and two sailors, was convicted last month in Honolulu of manslaughter, is a native of Winchester, Ky.

The sentences of the four for the "honor slaying" of a Hawaiian indicted for attacking Mrs. Massie, were commuted to one hour in jail.

The governor's order was issued on the regular form for restoring civil rights.

JUDGE TELLS JURY NOT TO CONSIDER STORY OF ASSAULT

Constitution
4-28-32
Atlanta, Ga.

Four Possible Verdicts Outlined; Veteran Attorney Employs All of Famed Pleading Gifts in Dramatic Argument.

STATE DEMANDS 20-YEAR MINIMUM

"Four Defendants Killed Merely To Satisfy 'Ego' of Lieutenant Massie," Prosecutor Charges.

BY DAN CAMPBELL.

COURTROOM, HONOLULU, T. H. April 27.—(UP)—The case of four Americans accused of the second-degree murder of Joseph Kahahawai, half-caste alleged to have assaulted the wife of a naval officer, went to a jury of mixed races late today.

Submitting the case to the jury followed brilliant arguments by Clarence Darrow, famed Chicago attorney who pleaded that the defendants be set free, and Prosecutor John Kelley, who demanded they be sent to prison for from 20 years to life.

After these two finished arguments, Judge Charles Davis read his instructions and the case was turned over to the seven Caucasians, two Chinese and three Hawaiians, who composed the jury.

Judge Davis told the jury that the fact that Mrs. Thalia Fortescue Massie, wife of defendant Lieutenant Thomas H. Massie, allegedly had been assaulted by Kahahawai could not be considered by the jury as justification for the slaying of the half caste.

The jury began deliberations at 4:25 p. m. (9:55 p. m. e. s. t., 10:55 P. M. e. d. t.)

Four Possible Verdicts.

In his instructions Judge Davis said they might return any one of four verdicts against those charged with shooting Kahahawai to avenge assaults upon Mrs. Thalia Fortescue Massie.

He said the defendants, Lieutenant Massie, Mrs. Grace Fortescue, mother of Mrs. Massie, and A. O. Jones and E. J. Lord, enlisted seamen, might be found guilty of second degree murder, as charged, or of manslaughter, or not guilty by reason of insanity, or not guilty. The court said the jury might return individual verdicts against the defendants.

Mrs. Massie, in court for the second time since the trial opened, started weeping hysterically while the judge read his instructions.

As soon as the jury retired the judge ordered the courtroom cleared of all save newspapermen. He said he did this as a precaution against any outbreak.

Prosecutor Kelley was the last of the attorneys to speak and he bitterly scored the defense and its tactics.

Kelley claimed the four defendants killed merely to satisfy the "ego" of Lieutenant Massie.

"There is no defense for them under the law," he said. "The defense claimed Massie was insane when he shot and killed Kahahawai, but I tell you he was as sane as any of you jurors.

Constitution

"Sympathy Appeal," Charge.

"Clarence Darrow, a great attorney, appealed in his final argument for sympathy. You must not listen to him. You must put sympathy behind you.

4-28-32

"Hawaii, itself, is on trial. You must determine whether there is one law for us and another for others. Can others take the law into their own hands?"

As he finished, Kelley said:

"Are you going to give Massie a ticket of leave so he can blithely kiss Hawaii goodbye? Why, they'll make him an admiral if you do. They'll put him on the chief of staff. Admiral Pratt and Massie think together. They believe in lynch law.

"I'd like you to remember this, though. As long as the American flag flies above the courthouse and not an admiral's pennant, you have to uphold the oath. You have a most vital task and there is no admiral to influence you. And as General Butler said, 'To hell with admirals.'"

Darrow, pleading for "human pity above the law," claimed Lieutenant Massie was insane when he shot Kahahawai and that the other defendants were implicated only by being present when Massie sought a confession from Kahahawai.

Judge Davis pointed out that the "not guilty by reason of insanity verdict could apply only to Massie, since he was the only one that entered such a plea.

"You are instructed," Judge Davis read, "that, regardless of whether you find Massie was insane when the shot was fired, to find him not guilty on that plea you must feel certain there was no intent to commit the shooting before he became insane."

The defense noted numerous exceptions to his instructions.

As the jury retired to its deliberations the defendants were taken to a downtown hotel.

An emotional plea, as dramatic as any he ever made in his 50 years as "counsel for defense," came from rugged Clarance Darrow as he fought to save the four defendants from serving prison terms.

There were few dry eyes in the courtroom as the 75-year-old Chicago attorney alternately pleaded, raged and challenged for those accused.

Before a jury of whites, orientals and natives, the 75-year-old Chicago attorney made an emotional demand that the defendants be acquitted of slaying to avenge assaults upon Mrs. Massie, attractive young wife of a naval officer.

The defendants, Lieutenant Thomas H. Massie, husband of Mrs. Massie; Mrs. Grace Hubbard Fortescue, her mother, and A. O. Jones and E. J. Lord, seamen, looked on spell-bound as Darrow fought to save them from possible terms of from 20 years to life in prison.

Present in the courtroom to hear Darrow make his final argument was Mrs. Massie. Her only previous appearance at the trial was when she told dramatically of the assaults Kahahawai and four other islanders assertedly made upon her when she wandered unaccompanied from a party the night of September 12, 1931.

These assaults placed such a mental strain upon Lieutenant Massie that the young naval officer's mind suddenly went blank when he heard Kahahawai confess he led the gang assault, the defense has contended.

He was completely insane, the defense claimed, when a bullet from a service revolver he held snuffed out the life of the half-caste.

Mrs. Massie wore a black dress which accentuated her paleness. She removed her hat to reveal her blonde hair, dressed much in the manner of that of the film star, Greta Garbo.

She sat beside her husband, who held her hand occasionally to help steady her.

Courtroom Jammed.

The courtroom was jammed with spectators of almost every race and mixture.

Outside the skies were blue and a torrid sun beat down. The atmosphere seemed stifling.

Darrow was wearing a new grey suit. It was carefully pressed in contrast to his usual style.

Before Darrow's argument started, Judge Charles S. Davis called the attorneys for a conference. It was reported counsel were wrangling over what Judge Davis intended to include in the instructions to the jury.

The courtroom grew hotter and palm leaf fans came out.

Darrow started slowly, his voice barely audible.

"We are getting near the end of this trial," he said. "I know we are all glad, and I feel you jurors probably are most joyous.

History of Case.

"I want to repeat just a bit of the history of this case. Eight months ago Mrs. Fortescue lived in Washington. She was respected and known. Eight months ago Lieutenant Massie was a youthful naval lieutenant. He was respected among his friends, and intelligent. Eight months ago his young wife, Mrs. Massie, was a handsome, attractive, intelligent woman. All three were known and respected in the entire community."

"What has befallen them in this short eight months? What has happened that they now are in criminal court with a jury which has been asked, to send them to prison for life?"

"I'll answer those questions," Darrow said, speaking louder, "a long series of events over which they had no control."

"I want to call your attention to Massie's mind," the 75-year-old barrister said. "What does anyone know of the mind and its devious workings?"

As Darrow talked his shaggy, unruly hair fell over his eyes and he brushed it aside with an impatient gesture. He mopped frequently at the perspiration on his brow.

"Eight months ago Lieutenant Massie took his young, attractive wife to a dance. He was grave, ambitious, fearless.

Say Mind Affected.

"We contend," and Darrow's voice became a thunder, "that Massie's mind was affected by grief and sorrow and trouble. It followed the events of that night of the dance Week after week after week he found grief and sorrow and trouble."

"There is nothing strange about what happened to Lieutenant Massie's mind. It would have happened to you and to me under similar conditions."

Darrow placed his long hands on the jury box rail as he went on to recite events at Alawai Inn where was held the party from which Mrs. Massie strayed to be assaulted.

"It was only a few steps from safety to destruction of body and mind," Darrow went on. "Thalia went for a walk. What was the next thing Lieutenant Massie heard from her?"

"Just as the prosecution in this case has said, the next thing Massie heard from his wife was 'horrible.'"

Tears came to Mrs. Massie's eyes.

Darrow turned swiftly to the story of the assaults upon Mrs. Massie. He hammered the rail as he recounted Mrs. Massie's story of how Kahahawai and the others assaulted and beat her although she prayed for mercy.

Mrs. Massie began to sob openly now and her husband attempted to comfort her.

"In those assaults," Darrow went on, pointing his long lean finger at the jury, "her whole life and whole family life was ruined."

Darrow folded his arms across his chest and shook his great head as he said:

"I don't know where I have heard a sadder or a crueler story."

Darrow now was calling Mrs. Massie by her first name and Lieutenant Massie by his

"When Thalia told Tommy the story of those gang assaults wasn't that enough to turn any man's mind?" he stormed. "Wouldn't it unsettle your mind to have your wife tell you such a story?"

Darrow was pounding the counsel table now.

"But it wasn't only a story of assaults that this man had to listen to. Those hoodlums had broken her jaw. They had knocked out her teeth. They cursed and beat her when she pleaded for mercy. Just think, Tommy had to listen to a recital like that."

"Story Not Denied."

"And I want you jurors to remember," Darrow said solemnly, "that the prosecution brought forth not one single act to deny her sad story nor to deny Kahahawai was one of the assaulters."

Dr. Robert Faus, city and county physician, sat in a front row seat. He was there at the request of Darrow. The attorney said he wanted the physician as a precautionary measure.

"My strength is not what it once was," he explained before court opened.

In the middle of his argument Darrow turned his trend suddenly to attack Dr. Josep Catton, San Francisco alienist, who testified for the territory and said he believed Massie sane at the time Kahahawai was shot.

Dr. Catton's testimony, given positively and in what Darrow considered a prejudiced way, aroused Darrow at the time and the attorney shook with anger as he recalled it today.

An island court probably never heard such a bitter scorching as Darrow gave the alienist.

"Catton," he said, as he pounded his table, "sits at his door like a spider waiting for flies. He takes the first one that comes. He would just as soon swear to destroy a man's life as to save it."

"With Dr. Catton," Darrow continued in his fury, "it merely depends on who gets to his door first."

Having disposed of Catton in this manner, Darrow turned again to events preceding Kahahawai's death

He told how the jury was hung when Kahahawai and four other islanders were tried on charges of assaulting Mrs. Massie.

"Then a whispering campaign started," he continued. "It achieved proportions such as few ever waged against man or woman.

"Strange, slanderous stories spread over this Paradise island, stories that Thalia never had been assaulted, stories that her husband broke her jaw.

"I wonder what fate can have against this family," he said slowly. "I wonder when fate will take its toll and allow it to go in peace.

Wired Mrs. Fortescue.

"What about the mother in the case. They wired Mrs. Fortescue asking her to come. She came. There are many eulogies about mothers, some of them are worthwhile but there is something more primitive I'll discuss.

"It isn't a question of the greatness of a mother but what nature has done. There is only one thing to a mother and that is the child she has borne."

Mrs. Fortescue started weeping. She held her handkerchief to her eyes.

Darrow was flailing the air with his long arms as he thundered up and down the courtroom.

"I tell you," he said, swinging to face the jury, "that she acted as every other mother acts. She felt as your mother felt. She started out on a long trip. Her daughter was married and a long way off. That didn't matter. If it was any other way there wouldn't be life on this planet.

"She traveled 5,000 miles by land and sea to be with her daughter.

"Do you gentlemen want to send her to the penitentiary?" He paused. "If you do go to it. There she sits in this courtroom.

"Let me say this, if the husband, mother and these faithful boys (Jones and Lord) go to prison it won't be the first prison sanctified by a miscarriage of justice. And, when people come to this beautiful island, no matter when, one of the first places they will wish to see, will be the prison where these people are confined because of their love and devotion.

"The prison will be the most conspicuous place on the island.

"Men will marvel at the injustice and cruelty of man in this, the cruelest persecution and sorrow that ever has followed a family.

"You, and you and you," Darrow shouted, singling out the jurors, "if you were caught in the hands of fate, would things be different?

"Life doesn't come that way. It comes through the devotion of husband and mother.

"That's where life comes from."

Darrow concluded his address with an appeal for the jury to put aside race prejudice in deciding this decidedly racial trial.

"I never knew the meaning of a feeling against any race," he said. "I defy anyone to show that I did. I think the people of the Pacific islands must learn to lure peace. Otherwise the Pacific will run red with the blood of man.

"I have no feeling against those that assaulted Mrs. Massie because of their race. I am a Caucasian, but that means nothing. The jails are full of Caucasians with whom we can live. It is full of them even in Chicago.

"I put this case above race and nationality. I ask everyone in this jury box to forget everything but the human angle. Please consider the terrible mishaps of this family and understand them."

Darrow was in tears as he closed this final address. His voice had lost all its fire. He looked like a tired old man.

"I would like to think, gentlemen of the jury, that I had done a small part in bringing peace and justice to these islands," he said.

He picked up his papers and walked to a seat. Mrs. Massie was weeping. Mrs. Fortescue shook hands with the veteran barrister.

HAWAIIAN PEOPLE ASK CONGRESS TO PROBE CONDITIONS IN THE ISLANDS

Courier 5-26-32 Pittsburgh, Pa.

WASHINGTON, May 26—(CNS)—Victor S. Kalcoaloha Houston (Republican), delegate of Honolulu, voiced the sentiment that the people of Hawaii are not satisfied with the so-called investigation of Assistant Attorney General Seth Richardson, who went to Hawaii to look into the crime situation in Hawaii, and especially Honolulu just after the Massie lynching.

Delegate Houston appeared before the Rules Committee of the House on Thursday, May 19, and presented a telegram from the speaker of the Hawaiian Legislature stating that if Congress did not want to send a commission to Hawaii, the Territorial Legislature would be glad to send one to the United States to inform Congress of conditions there.

Darrow Defends His Course in Hawaii

~~Journal and~~ Guide 5-28-32
Norfolk, Va.

HIS STAND ON MASSIE CASE IS TOLD

Veteran Lawyer Gives Journalist Inside Story Of Affair

NO RACIAL ANGLES

"My Business Is That Of A Criminal Lawyer," He Says

By E. W. WILKINS

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Leaning comfortably back in one of the lounge chairs in the lobby of the Hotel Muehlebach Monday morning, Clarence Darrow, internationally famous criminal lawyer made a statement as important to his Negro followers as was the verdict in the Honolulu "honor slaying" case.

I opened our talk by pointing out that many Negroes felt that he had betrayed their interests by accepting the defense of the people accused with Massie in the Hawaiian slaying.

Stipulated Own Terms

"Before I took this case," Darrow said, "I sent to my prospective client my argument in the Sweet case so that he would have no misconception of my attitude about race differences. I also stipulated in advance that if the racial angle were to be injected into this case, I would not accept the defense of the accused persons.

"At no time was a racial argument made. It was a case in criminal law. My business is that of a criminal lawyer. It would have been just as absurd for me to refuse to accept this case because the dead Hawaiian was a "colored" man as it would have been for you to refuse your assignment to interview me because I am a white man.

Needs No Defense

"I am not trying to excuse myself to colored people for having participated in this case. Any colored person who reads and who knows my record is aware that I need neither excuse nor defense.

"After all," and he chuckled one of his characteristic dry chuckles "I have to make my living just as everyone else does. In spite of my activity on behalf of Negroes, very little of that income has come from them. Understand—that is not criticism. I have bestirred myself for colored people because I wanted to and have asked little or nothing in return. What they think of me and this also applies to white and other people, doesn't make a great deal of difference, but I would, of course, appreciate their goodwill."

Shows His Years

I was 10 min. early for my appointment and had to wait for Darrow to finish his breakfast. When he came into the lobby from the restaurant, he looked very tired. Although he gives the impression of being tall, I discovered with something of a shock when I stood to shake hands with him that he is only very little taller than I, and I am a short man. He moves slowly and as though he feels sharply the weight of his 75 years. The lines in his face are deeply graven. When we sat down, he sank into his seat with the obvious gesture of a person needing rest.

His whole appearance bespeaks frailty, but that condition is overbalanced by the keenness of his eyes and readiness of his speech. His voice is low and a bit hoarse. Sitting next to him, I had to strain time and again to follow what he was saying.

Negroes Moving Up

"In my opinion, conditions in this country for the Negro are getting better. This is especially true of the South where the interracial commission has been doing some most commendable work. The stand of those white women down there in nailing the current lies about Negro offenders has done much to open the eyes of white people in general about what Negroes are really like.

"Negroes are moving ahead rapidly in education and should continue to do so. It seems to me that they will make the biggest strides forward if they develop an intelligent interest in politics. In the past, of course, they make a big mistake by a blind adherence to the Republican party. They should vote for men and issues and forget about party.

Journal and Guide
5-28-32
Norfolk, Va.

Has No Illusions

His explanation of his work in the Massie case, a matter which has perturbed Negroes immensely, was simply a statement of fact, not by any means an apology, for none was necessary. His work in the Sweet case was the effort of a great humanitarian. I had expected to meet a roaring lion full of narratives of past achievements and casting eagerly about for new exploits. Instead I found a gentle voiced old man, kindly, tolerant, wearily critical, and wise with the wisdom attained from 75 years of colorful active existence.

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Honolulu, Hawaii.

3663

Report Wilbur Tells Governor to Free Massie

Chicago

BULLETIN.

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Tribune

5/4/32

HONOLULU, May 3.—Gov. Lawrence M. Judd in a radiophone conversation with Secretary of the Interior Ray L. Wilbur today, is understood to have discussed the subject of a pardon for the four defendants convicted of manslaughter in the Fortescue-Massie murder trial. The governor declined to discuss the conversation, but it is rumored that Secretary Wilbur told Gov. Judd to pardon the quartet or resign.

HONOLULU, T. H., May 3.—[U. P.]—A Hawaiian-American juror held up the verdict in Honolulu's "honor murder" case for five hours in a single handed and vain effort to gain acquittal for the defendants. It was learned today that George McIntyre, the Hawaiian-American, gave in to the manslaughter verdict only then after he had forced the insertion of a leniency recommendation.

The first ballot, it was learned, brought a division of votes along racial lines, six of the seven Caucasions voting along with McIntyre for acquittal.

Five Demanded Conviction.

The other five jurors demanded conviction for second degree murder, arguing that while Lieut. Thomas H. Massie might have been temporarily insane when he fired the shot that killed Joeeph Kahahawai, asserted confessed attacker of his wife, the evidence showed conspiracy to kidnap the Hawaiian and assault with a deadly weapon.

Prosecutor John C. Kelley's hints that some other than Massie might have held the gun when Kahahawai was killed apparently led one juror to suggest that E. J. Lord, one of the two seamen involved with Massie and his mother-in-law, Mrs. Granville Fortescue, in the slaying, be convicted and the others freed.

Finally the seven holding for acquittal wavered. Willie Beyer, potato chip "king" of Honolulu, was the last to go over to the manslaughter verdict save for McIntyre.

Effort May Prove Futile.

McIntyre's effort to gain leniency will be of no avail, according to some lawyers, as under territorial law Judge Charles S. Davis has no choice but to exact the maximum sentence of 10 years in Oahu prison. The prison board then could lighten the sentence by granting parole at any time after three months.

NEW MOVES MADE TO FREE MASSIE

Constitution

5-4-32

McKellar Introduces Bill Asking Full Pardon for Four Americans.

Atlanta Ga.

WASHINGTON, May 3.—(UP)—Two new moves were made in congress today toward obtaining a pardon for the four Americans convicted of manslaughter in the Honolulu "honor slaying."

While a petition was being circulated in the house asking freedom for the quartet, Senator Kenneth McKellar, democrat, Tennessee, introduced a bill in the senate asking for a complete congressional pardon for Lieutenant Thomas Massie, Mrs. Granville Fortescue and the two seamen.

McKellar's bill is similar to the one introduced yesterday in the house by Representative Charles R. Crisp, democrat, Georgia, and stated that inasmuch as congress exercised complete control over the territory of Hawaii, it had sufficient power to grant the pardon.

This question, however, has produced a legal controversy with many experts here maintaining such action was not within the jurisdiction of congress.

Representative Maurice Thatcher, republican, Kentucky, sponsored the petition which was circulated soon after the house met at noon today. It said:

"We as members of congress, deeply concerned for the welfare of Hawaii, believe that the prompt and unconditional pardon of Lieutenant Massie and his associates will serve that welfare and the ends of justice. We, therefore, most earnestly urge that such pardon be granted."

Late in the afternoon the petition had more than 80 signers and Representative Thatcher said that only one congressman who had been asked to sign had refused. He declined to reveal the member's name. The petition is to be radioed or telegraphed to Governor Judd either tonight or tomorrow morning.

GEORGIA CONGRESSMEN FAVOR CRISP MEASURE

WASHINGTON, May 3.—The Georgia delegation in the house as well as a substantial number of his democratic colleagues are wholeheartedly favoring the enactment into law of the Crisp bill which calls for a pardon of Lieutenant Thomas H. Massie and his three co-defendants convicted of manslaughter for the slaying of the Hawaiian, Joseph Kahahawai, accused of assaulting Mrs. Massie.

Representative Robert Ramspeck, of Atlanta, said that the Crisp bill should be immediately enacted into law. "I am satisfied from newspaper reports," said the Atlantan, "that Lieutenant Massie, Mrs. Fortescue and the two American seamen would never have been convicted by any jury in the United States, and I feel that in the proper protection of our American women in Hawaii, congress should act on the Crisp measure without 24 hours' delay.'

"Apparently justice, as we know it in America, is not functioning in Honolulu, and if we pardon these defendants it will be notice to our Hawaiian dependents that their judicial procedure must be orderly and fair to Americans residing on their islands."

Judge Crisp had requested that his bill be referred to the committee on territories, of which Representative Williams, of Texas, is chairman, but the judiciary committee took charge and will probably give it consideration at its regular meeting next Thursday.

Both houses of congress are greatly exercised over what is generally termed here as "a miscarriage of Hawaiian justice" and if the senate and house do not pardon the defendants, it is confidently expected that President Hoover will act.

DARROW "JUST BEGINNING" FIGHT ON MASSIE VERDICT

HONOLULU, T. H., May 3.—(UP) Clarence Darrow, who has spent a long life fighting what he saw as injustices, said today he was "just starting" the Massie-Fortescue case.

"The manslaughter verdict against these people wasn't justice," the 75-year-old attorney told the United Press. "I'm prepared to fight to the end."

He said he expected to ask a new trial for Mrs. Granville R. Fortescue, Lieutenant Thomas H. Massie and E. J. Lord and A. O. Jones when they appear for sentence Friday for the manslaughter of Joseph Kahahawai.

"I'm not prepared to say what I think of action being taken here and in congress for pardons," he said.

"A new trial probably will be asked. If it is denied, an appeal will be filed within three weeks or a month."

Darrow said he probably would return to the mainland while an appeal was in progress.

GUILTY. FREE. HAWAII

Guardian

JURY UNANIMOUSLY CONVICTS ALL 4 LYNCHERS OF MANSLAUGHTER — JUDGE SENTENCES TO 10 YEARS AT HARD LABOR — TERRITORIAL GOVERNOR COMMUTES SENTENCE

1 HOUR LATER—HAWAIIANS RESENT, AMERICANS NOT EVEN YET SATISFIED—CASE AGAINST HAWAIIANS FOR ASSAULT ON MRS. MASSIE MAY BE DROPPED

5-7-32

Honolulu, May 4, 1932—Within one dramatic hour today, Lieutenant Thomas H. Massie and his three co-defendants were sentenced to 10 years of hard labor for the slaying of an alleged Hawaiian attacker, and then received their freedom through a commutation by Governor Lawrence M. Judd.

Boston, Mass.

Free In One Hour

Exactly one hour after Mrs. Granville Fortescue, her son-inlaw, Massie, and two sailors, Albert O. Jones and E. J. Lord, were sentenced by Judge Charles Davis, for the slaying of Joseph Kahahawai, they were handed commutations.

5-7-32

Their hour of confinement had been spent in the Iolani palace, across the street from the little courtroom in which they were tried and found guilty of manslaughter.

Ends Assault Case

With today's climax of the murder trial came almost certan end to the Massie assault case. Clarence Darrow who headed the defence counsel, said he would advise her to leave Honolulu at once.

Governor Judd, in commuting the sentence to one hour, merely said he was acting on a petition of the four defendants, in which their counsel joined, and was commuting the sentence to one hour.

Convicted

The four defendants were found guilty of manslaughter. last Friday after a harrowing trial.

Circuit Judge Charles S. Davis pronounced the maximum penalty, 10 years at hard labor. Under the law the jurist was forced to give the maximum penalty. The minimum to be served later fixed by the territorial prison board.

Wortman said he anticipated orders at an early date transferring Massie, Jones and Lord to duty elsewhere.

The abrupt termination of the case probably will mean that all the Massies and Fortescues will leave Hawaii permanently. Mrs. Massie probably will not remain to testify at the retrial of the assault case, in which the remaining four defendants accused of attacking her will be tried. Plans for the retrial are now under way.

Darrow Sails Sunday

With completion of the case for which he came out of retirement to wage battle, Darrow said he was planning to leave for the mainland Sunday on the S. S. Malolo.

Attorney-General Harry Hewitt said Governor Judd's action of commutation of sentence is not a pardon and hasn't the effect of a pardon in restoring the civil rights of the convicted. Queried on this point, Darrow said he thought "federal action might be taken to restore them. We are all satisfied."

"Conviction of manslaughter carried with it the loss of civil rights," the attorney-general said, "and the only way they can be restored is by a pardon from the Governor."

Petition From Congressmen

With his announcement of granting commutation, Governor Judd made public a petition of 104 members of Congress, the first name on it being Representative M. H. Thatcher, Kentucky, who has been active in efforts to obtain a congressional pardon for the four.

Hawaiians Resentful

The immediate reaction of Hawaiians was resentment.

Their spokeswoman, Princess David Kawanankoa, Republican national committeewoman for Hawaii, said:

"The atmosphere has been so permeated with 'laxity of conditions and strict law enforcement' for the past few months that belief that justice could only be served by strict adherence to law has become part of our daily existence.

"With this commutation, the verdict of a jury composed of men of intelligence, sound judgment and good character, with the facts and law before them, becomes a farce and the truth, as brought out by the prosecution, becomes a travesty. Are we to infer from the Governor's act that there are two sets of laws in Hawaii—one for the favored few and another for the people in general?"

Democrats and Republicans

"They ought not to have been made to serve even one hour. The stigma that attaches to that sentence ought to be removed in some way."

Eager to determine if Governor Judd's action amounted to a pardon, which he urged, Senator Bingham (R., Conn.), chairman of the territories committee, asked for news of the case.

"If the commutation of sentence is a pardon, I am delighted," Bingham said. "If not, I am disappointed. I think a pardon due."

From Representative Thatcher (Republican, Kentucky) came the declaration the commutation is "temporizing," to which he added:

"If they are going to do anything, they ought to grant a full pardon. They are just trying to save their faces by recognizing a technicality."

Four Americans Serve Hour For Slaying Native

Advertiser
5-5-32.
Montgomery
Ala.

10-Year Prison Sentence Imposed By Judge Is Commuted By Governor

Noted Case Over

Woman And Three Navy Men Found Guilty Last Friday Of Manslaughter

HONOLULU, May 4.—(AP)—Within one dramatic hour today Lieut. Thomas H. Massie and his three co-defendants were sentenced to 10 years at hard labor for the honor slaying of an alleged Hawaiian attacker and then received their freedom through a commutation by Gov. Lawrence M. Judd.

The swift-moving final act of the most dramatic judicial battle in the history of Honolulu apparently marked the close of the chapter of crime which lifted Hawaii from an unworried paradise in mid-Pacific into a spotlight at which the whole world pointed.

Exactly one hour after the tall, gray-haired Mrs. Granville Fortescue, her stiffly erect son-in-law, Massie, and two sailors, Albert O. Jones and E. J. Lord, were sentenced by Judge Charles Davis, for the slaying of Joseph Kahahawai, they were handed commutations.

The four were convicted Friday of manslaughter for the killing of Kahahawai, alleged attacker of Mrs. Massie.

The hour they served on their sentences was spent in the high ceilinged, red-carpeted room in Iolani Palace, where they were in nominal custody of High Sheriff Gordon Ross, of Oahu Prison.

Commutation Not a Pardon

Gov. Judd's action in commuting the sentences is not a pardon, Atty. Gen. Harry Hewitt said, and will not restore the civil rights of the convicted persons. Darrow said, however, he thought "Federal action might be taken to restore them," and added: "We are all satisfied."

Hewitt said the only way the civil rights "can be restored is by a pardon from the Governor." He was uncertain, he said, as to whether the President could grant such a pardon.

Mrs. Fortescue expressed gratification for what "my friends back on the mainland have done for me, especially those who made it possible for Mr. Darrow to come out here."

(At Washington, it was said President Hoover, as commander-in-chief of the Army and Navy, would be confronted with the decision as to whether Lieut. Massie will continue in the naval service. His responsibility in connection with the case is outlined in Article 36 of the Articles of Government of the Navy, which authorizes the President to drop from the Navy or Marine rolls any officer convicted by civil authorities of any offense and sentenced to a state or Federal penitentiary. The President is believed unlikely to oust Lieut. Massie from the service.)

Freed, they returned to the Pearl Harbor naval base where Mrs. Fortescue is preparing to leave the islands, probably forever. Her daughter, Mrs. Thalia Massie, whose terrible experience with a group of men last September was the beginning of the wave of unrest, may go soon. Lieut. Massie, Jones, and Lord probably will be transferred to another post.

Assault Case Probably Over

With today's climax of the murder trial came almost certain end to the Massie assault case. Clarence Darrow, veteran Chicago attorney who headed the defense counsel, said he would advise Mrs. Massie to go away without testifying again and, from an unimpeachable source, it was learned that the case will not be retried. The jury at the first trial of Kahahawai and the four other accused, failed to agree.

Without Mrs. Massie as a witness, it would be impossible anyway.

The reaction in this sunflooded paradise, where all races live, was sharply divided. From Walter F. Dillingham, millionaire financial and commercial leader, came commendation of the Governor's action. Princess David Kawananakoa, Republican national committeewoman, who speaks for the native Hawaiians, commented in a bitter vein.

Native Woman Indignant

"Are we to infer from the Governor's act that there are two sets of laws in Hawaii?" she asked.

Darrow, with lines deeply etched in his 75-year-old face from long hours spent on the case, probably his last, grinned happily as he sat on a table at the palace and dangled his legs and told newspapermen he was "pleased and ready to go home."

The defendants were scheduled to be sentenced next Friday.

Virtually no one except the usual employes of the Judiciary Building were present when the quartet was brought there for sentencing. Jones was first to receive sentence.

Maximum Sentence Imposed

Circuit Judge Charles S. Davis pronounced the maximum penalty, 10 years at hard labor. Under the law the jurist was forced to give the maximum penalty. The minimum to be served is later fixed by the Territorial Prison Board.

Lord, then Massie, and finally Mrs. Fortescue received similar sentences. In reply to questions of Judge Davis, all answered they had nothing to say before sentence was passed.

They were then committed to the custody of the Sheriff and permitted to go across the street to the palace where Gov. Judd's offices are located. Within an hour the commutation was announced. Gone from their faces was the beaten look which had persisted throughout the long trial and for the first time in weeks each smiled happily. Mrs. Massie was present, radiant in a bright blue dress.

Darrow said he had been informed of the Governor's intention Monday.

To Remain In Navy

Capt. Ward Wortman, Massie's commander, who has been the custodian of the defendants at Pearl Harbor since they were arrested Jan. 8, said Massie, Jones and Lord would retain their status in the Navy unchanged.

He said the mittimus committing them to the custody of the sheriff of Oahu Prison preserved their standing. If they had been sent to prison, even for an hour, Wortman said, Federal action would have been necessary to clear their records and restore them to their status in the Navy. This view was concurred in by Lieut. Johnson, who represented the Navy on the defense counsel.

With completion of the case Darrow said he was planning to leave for the mainland Sunday.

It was exactly 11 a.m. (3:30 p.m., Montgomery time) when their commutations were handed them. Gov. Judd made a short statement explaining his action. Then, while their friends crowded about offering congratulations, the defendants went outside to be photographed.

With his announcement of granting commutation, Gov. Judd made public a petition of 104 members of Congress, the first name on it being Representative M. H. Thatcher, of Kentucky, who has been active in efforts to obtain a congressional pardon for the four.

Text Of Petition

"We, as members of Congress, are deeply concerned for the welfare of Hawaii and believe that a prompt unconditional pardon of Lieut. Massie and his associates will serve that welfare and the ends of substantial justice. We therefore earnestly urge such a pardon be granted."

The defendants had also petitioned the Governor as follows:

"The undersigned defendants in the matter of the Territory of Hawaii versus Grace Fortescue et al and their attorneys do hereby respectfully pray your Excellency to exercise the power of executive clemency in you vested and further in view of the recommendation of the jury in said matter do commute the sentences heretofore pronounced in said matter."

It was signed by Darrow and George S. Leisure, another defense attorney.

Defendants Happy Now

The scene when the defendants left the Judiciary Building after hearing their sentences pronounced was in marked contrast to their leave taking there five days ago when they were convicted.

Then they appeared beaten. Mrs. Massie was weeping and nearly collapsed as they got into motor cars and started back for Pearl Harbor facing long prison sentences.

Today in a small group and accompanied by relatives, a few naval officers and other friends they walked out into the sunshine knowing that within an hour they would be free. While each maintained a serious face while hearing the judge sentence them to "10 years at hard labor," several friends smiled.

Some opinion here regarding the outcome of the case seemed to be that it was the best way out of a difficult situation.

John A. Balsh, president of the Mutual Telephone Company, said: "All citizens here who have a real love for the Federal Government will rejoice at the Governor's action."

Walter F. Dillingham, commercial and financial leader of Honolulu, saw in the Governor's action an expression of the jury's intention recommending leniency. He said: "In my judgment, this action of the Governor is wholly fitting in view of all contributing factors."

Hour Too Long To Serve, Senator McKellar Says

WASHINGTON, May 4.—(AP)—Even an hour in prison custody was looked upon today by congressional advocates of a pardon as too long for the four Americans in the Joseph Kahahawai slaying case in Honolulu.

Disappointment that they were not pardoned mingled with condemnation and praise of the commutation by Gov. Lawrence M. Judd of their 10-year sentence for manslaughter.

Meanwhile, the question of whether Lieut. Thomas H. Massie will continue in the naval service apparently rested solely with President Hoover. The general opinion among naval officers was that President Hoover would not exercise his authority to cut Massie off the rolls.

A "confession" the four did not get a fair trial was read in the commutation by Senator McKellar, (D), Tennessee, sponsor of a bill for a congressional pardon.

McKellar said he also felt that "the conviction was improper and they should have been acquitted," continuing:

"They ought not to have been made to serve even one hour. The stigma that attaches to that sentence ought to be removed in some way."

FOUR IN HONOLULU MOVE FOR PARDON

Advertiser
5-4-32

Lieut. Massie, Mrs. Fostescue, Lord And Jones To Be Sentenced Friday

Montgomery
Ala

HONOLULU, May 3.—(AP)—Developments in Washington today held the attention of the four Americans found guilty of manslaughter in the slaying of Joseph Kahahawai, asserted attacker of Mrs. Thalia Massie. These developments included moves for congressional pardon.

Honolulu had settled into outward calm while awaiting the sentencing Friday of Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, Mrs. Granville Fortescue, mother of Mrs. Massie, and E. J. Lord and Albert O. Jones, enlisted men of the Navy.

The first step toward escaping the penalty on the manslaughter verdict returned by the racially mixed jury will be a motion for a new trial.

The defense, headed by Clarence Darrow, admits, however, this will be little more than a technical step for the sake of the record, with little hope it will succeed.

Should Circuit Judge Charles S. Davis pronounce sentence Friday, the next act would be to take the case into the Hawaiian Supreme Court. If the action there is against the defendants, an appeal may be taken to the Ninth U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals in California.

Judge Davis has given no indication of what his sentence will be. The maximum penalty would be 10 years' imprisonment at hard labor.

Darrow began today the task of searching the record for flaws in the prosecution's presentation. The defense is making a particular study of constitutional questions on which to base an appeal to the Federal Court.

Mrs. Helen Ripley, sister of Mrs. Fortescue, has been more affected by the outcome of the trial than have the defendants, it was said by Robert Bell, brother of the two women.

Judge A. M. Cristy, who was disqualified in the trial of the accused slayers of Kahahawai on the grounds of prejudice, will retry the four men who with Kahahawai were accused of attacking Mrs Massie. The trial date probably will be set late this month.

The first trial of the natives, which resulted in a jury disagreement, was presided over by Judge A. E. Steadman.

It became certain today that Public Prosecutor John C. Kelley, who presented the case against those charged with killing Kahahawai would also prosecute the four men accused of attacking Mrs. Massie.

Kelley is in the midst of the prosecution of Joseph Young, a Korean, charged with having criminally assaulted a 17-year-old Chinese high school girl. The jury in this case is being selected.

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Honolulu, Hawaii.

3664

THE LAW IN HONOLULU

East Tennessee News

5-5-32

Knoxville, Tenn.

The little city of Honolulu, capital of Hawaii, with a population of more than 52,000 has been the cynosure of the entire civilized world as news of a deplorable crime wave which disturbed their citizenship during the past few months gained circulation. The beginning of the situation that served to throw the spot-light of undesirable publicity on the popular and advantageous seaport city arose over the brutal and apparently unwarranted attack on an American white woman, the wife of an officer of the United States Navy, by natives. Without a doubt, judging from the published accounts of the assault, the crime was more cowardly and brutal than any that has been noted in the crime record of the United States and the perpetrators should have been caused to pay the extreme penalty prescribed for such an act. The accused had been drawn into the courts, but while the matter was pending, the accusers set about to take the law into their own hands, resultant in the lynching of the native by a small group of whites. Honolulu authorities exhibited an altogether different attitude from other sections in view of such mob tactics, however, and when the slayer of the native and his conspirators were brought to trial last week, a jury returned a guilty verdict and prescribed punishment that will serve to convince all onlookers as well as the defendants themselves, that they must not take the law into their hands regardless as to the enormity of the crime.

If the slain native was guilty of assaulting the woman, he should have been promptly punished as the law prescribes, but his punishment should have come about through constituted legal authority. When the injured parties elected to mete out punishment to the accused, they placed themselves in the category of the criminal element and manifested a disregard for law and authority that should not be countenanced under any circumstances.

The law must be respected at all times and Honolulu authorities have announced to the world that they will demand respect for their laws and courts regardless as to the clamor of advocates of mob spirit.

The Americans were amply represented by able and experienced counsel. Criticism has been directed at the noted criminal lawyer, Clarence Darrow, in view of his tactics and assertions concerning lynch law as employed in the defense of his clients. Such criticism is hardly justifiable, as Mr. Darrow was adopting the same course that any lawyer would adopt in an effort to free his clients and win his case. Neither is there just cause for criticism of the young attorney who represented the state in prosecuting the cases, for he was only engaged in performing his sworn duty. If the attorney general had yielded to the demands of the friends of the defendants charged with slaying the native and not fought vigorously as he did to bring about a conviction, he would have been subjected to the most caustic criticism imaginable from all law-abiding citizens throughout the nation. Further, respect for our courts would have been lowered to a marked degree and mobocracy would have taken on new courage and run rampant throughout the land to a much greater extent than is true now.

Honolulu offers to the outside world an excellent example of demanding respect for our courts and there is little question but that we are much more advanced along the road to civilization because of the action of the court and jury in Honolulu.

THE MASSIE CASE

NOW we have it. It required a trial of the Massie case in far away Honolulu to bring to the surface in these United States the absolute truth of the real attitude of our white friends on the question of mob law. If the Massie case never serves any other purpose under the sun, it has served successfully to bring to the surface the deep-seated conviction that the white people in this country actually believe in and wholeheartedly do sanction mob law. It goes without saying that we are doomed as a nation.

Courier 5-7-32

What is the Massie case? The facts are too common to be repeated. But briefly, the facts are these: An American husband with his wife attended a cabaret in Hawaii. About midnight she walks out of the cabaret and leaves her husband with other guests. She goes out into the streets alone, unattended, and her husband says he did not know where she was going. When the husband finds the wife again she reports that she has been attacked by men of foreign blood. Included among them was a Hawaiian.

All of the men named by Mrs. Massie as her assailants were tried in Hawaii. The jury disagreed and the men were released on bail awaiting a second trial.

Rather than await a second trial, some Americans, under false pretense, kidnaped one of the Hawaiians named as an assailant of Mrs. Massie and they lynched him. This is long after the assault had been committed. Under the law, no one has been convicted or established as the true assailant of Mrs. Massie.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

The trial was referred to as the "Honor Trial" and the defense concocted in our American newspapers was the unwritten law, or, in other words, murder was committed in defense of a woman's honor.

No man holds the honor of a woman any higher than we do. Our mother was a woman.

But whose honor was assailed in this case? It was not Mrs. Fortescue. It was not Mr. Massie. It was not the two naval officers, if the reports are correct. Before we could call this an honor trial, and before the defense could allege that murder was committed in defense of Mrs. Massie's honor, Mrs. Massie should have been the person to commit the murder. If Mrs. Massie had shot down the Hawaiian who assaulted her, then we can see some merit to the so-called "Honor" defense and "Honor" murder. But Mrs. Massie did not lynch the Hawaiian. He was lynched by her mother, her husband and two naval enlisted men, none of whom had been assaulted.

If her husband or her mother, or a next friend, can commit murder in defense of the honor of another, then the participants in murder could as easily be a mob of friends as well as two, three or four friends. The principle is absolutely the same. The Hawaiian was lynched, not by people whom he had assaulted, but by people whose honor was never at stake.

And our American newspapers—how they tried the case in their columns.

The jury, composed of six Americans and six members of other nationalities ,was held up to public ridicule. Our public press referred to the six foreigners as "half-castes," "half-breeds," "Orientals" and whatnot.

But the verdict brought in was one of guilt, voted for by the six Americans on that jury. And the only person on the jury who wanted to acquit the whole four was a Hawaiian, one of the "half-castes," one of the "half-breeds" referred to in our American press. It appears from reports that the six Americans on the jury voted for conviction. They had to vote for a conviction before the verdict could be reached.

And the howl of "injustice" went up. What was the injustice? We note from quoted remarks by Senators in outstanding newspapers that the verdict was a great injustice. We note that the hue and cry is now raised that the four Americans were not tried by their peers. Who are our peers in criminal court? Go to the law for the answer. Every defendant who walks into a criminal court and submits himself to a trial by a jury accepts the personnel of the panel as his peers. Some of that panel may be ministers, some may be lawyers, some may be hod-carriers, some may be maids, porters, and even bootblacks, but under our law they are all the peers of the defendant the moment he

submits to a trial by a jury.

Why, then, the hue and cry that the defendants were not tried by their peers? Why, then, the exclamation of injustice, simply because the jury who heard the facts convicted the defendants? Why the assault upon the judge and the grand jury because four people were indicted for lynching a human being? The answer is plain. THIS COUNTRY BELIEVES IN MOB LAW. This country subscribes to lynching, and that is why no law has found its way to the pages of our statute books making lynching a Federal offense. Our public press discloses not only dissatisfaction with the verdict, but a bitterness toward the orderly and constituted legal processes by which men and women are to be tried for crime. The Massie case has evoked comment from men in high places whose deep-seated sympathy with mob law and lynching burst forth in passionate comment, calculated to destroy the law of our land.

The defense concocted by Mr. Darrow was no defense. It was no defense in law, nor was it any defense in fact. Massie admitted that he used the revolver to wring from the slain Hawaiian a confession. Suppose the Hawaiian had not confessed. How do we know he did confess, except what Massie said. And Massie also said he was insane at the time of the shooting. If he were insane, how shall we believe that the Hawaiian confessed. A crazy man cannot be relied upon, and an admittedly crazy man is an incompetent witness.

Let there be no mistake about the Massie case. The jury said Mr. Darrow with his much-touted forensic ability made absolutely no impression, and under the law the jury is the sole judge of the facts. This country believes in mob law. It sympathizes with lynching. It condones the action of mobs who take the law into their own hands. Further denial is absolutely unnecessary. We have it from senators, from leading editorials, from statesmen, from laymen in these United States.

The Massie trial has established beyond question that the deep-seated conviction in the minds of the white people of this country favors lynching and mob violence.

If we want to take over the Hawaiian Islands and make every square foot of them a fort, let us do it like courageous men and women; but the Massie trial should not be used as an excuse or pretext to make a fort of the Hawaiian Islands.

THE MASSIE CASE

By B. C. Baskerville

Ev[illegible] in a while, something happens that shows up a people or a nation in its true light. That is just what happened in the Massie case. The resentment exhibited by Americans against the lay for daring to administer even a mild form of punishment to the four Massie defendants, even though they were guilty of taking [illegible] in their own hands and co[illegible]ng cold-blooded murder in killing Kahahawai in Honolulu, shows them up in their true light as lawless people. I suspect that the American people are the greatest law violators on the face of God's green earth. Contempt for law that attempts to prevent them from doing what they want to do, or to punish them for what they have done, is one of the pronounced characteristics of Americans.

The recent vituperations of Floyd Gibbons, the fire brand correspondent of the sensational Hearst papers illustrates that point. In expressing his contempt for the administration of justice in the Massie case, he said, in part, "Our politicians are all lawyers. They write the laws, interpret them, evade them and inforce them. We are overridden by laws and lawyer politicians. The legal and political mess in Honolulu is the outcome of the legal and political mess in Washington." Here he expresses his contempt for law and law makers. Now listen at this as he continues to rave: "Manslaughter—of course it was. And justifiable manslaughter if ehere ever was justifiable manslaughter. That verdict of conviction is a verdict against every politician in Washington." Oh, yes, whenever a white man kills a colored man it is always "justifiable." The American white man has killed Indians and Negroes with impunity so long that he now seems to think that he has a right to kill anybody anywhere with, or without provocation and nothing should be done about it!

As I stated in the outset, Americans are lawless people. Of course there are exceptions. Laws are for other people to obey and not for them. In making a campaign speech for re-election a couple of years ago, Ex-Senator Blease, of South Carolina, came out boldly and said, "To hell with the constitution," while at the same time hos contemporary, Al Capone, was saying the same thing in action. So it is not at all surprising to find in the press such statements as the following: "If I were a member of the house, I would move for his impeachment." Thus, spoke Senator Mcellar, democrat, of Tennessee, in referring to one of the judges in the case. He would impeach the judge for daring to do his duty! Representative Rankin, democrat, of Mississippi, would place Hawaii under direct Federal control because it dared to punish a white man for taking the law in his own hands and murdering a native the way it is frequently done in Mississippi. He said, "Thta seems to be the only way to put a stop to such farcical mockery of justice as have grown out of this horrible incident." But an anti-lynch bill to put a stop to such horrible exhibitions of lynchings as occur in Mississippi would no doubt meet with his most bitter opposition. Congressman Crisp, of Georgia, recommends that Congress should pardon the four defendants, but if Congress should take any such steps in a case in Georgia, he no double would rise up in grand eloquence in defense of the principle of "states rights." Rear Admiral Joseph M. Reeves is reported to have said, "Isn't that a shame—I didn't believe it was possible." Men of the navy, if reports are true, have brutalized and murdered the natives of our Island possessions so often and gotten away with it that I don't suppose he did think that any punishment was possible in this case.

After all of this exhibition of madness and lawlessness, it is indeed comforting to find a few men woh have not lost their reason and sense of fairness: Rear Admiral W. C. Cole seems to be one of them. He is reported to have said in referring to this case. "I couldn't see anything but this verdict. I feel that justice and law in the abstract has been upheld." Of course it has. Those defendants had no right to take the law in their own hands and become judge, juror and executioner. If those natives are guilty as accused then they should be punished by law and not by private individuals.

And now the most sensible American of them all, Will Rogers, has this to say, "I have never seen any reason why us, or any other nation, should hold under subjection of any kind any island or country outside of our own. Let's all come home, and let every nation ride its own surfboard, play its own ukuleles and commit their devilment on their own race." What a sensible statement and what sound advice!

But look! Look! Before I can finish writing this story the evening newspapers are carrying a boxcar head line across the front page stating that the Massie defendants had been pardoned. Under pressure from Washington, Governor Judd, of Hawaii, has pushed the hand of justice aside and turned the lynchers aloose! Well, well, well, what do you thing about that? As far as I know, no lyncher has ever been convicted in this country for his crime, although about 4,000 people have been lynched here in the last thirtyj years. If, hereafter, anyone should be convicted for this crime the governor is at liberty to follow this precedent and turn him aloose. What a picture of justice that is! The rest of the civilized world can now point a finger of scorn at the United States as a country not only where lynching may frequently occur but also where they may even be officially sanctioned.

Of course the Hawaiians do not like the action of Governor Judd. They would be less than civilized human beings if they did. Their feeling was expressed very vividly by Princess Kawananakoa, a highly intelligent social and political leader of Hawaii. She said: "With this commutation, the verdict of a jury composed of men with intelligence, sound judgment and good character, with the facts and the law before them, becomes a farce, and the truth as brought out by the prosecution becomes a travesty. Are we to infer from the governor's act that there are two sets of laws in Hawaiii—one for the favord few and another for the people generally?" This statement shows how the Hawaiians think about it.

In regards to the princess' question, Negroes in American know full well that if American law works in Hawaii like it works in America, it is two-faced. It looks one way for the white and another way for the colored. Thus Hawaii has experienced a taste of American justice, and what a bitter taste it must have been.

LAW AND JUSTICE

Clarence Darrow," the most widely-known of defense lawyers, left Hawaii Sunday, declaring that he "had finished his last case" and condemning the "bunk and piffle" of law books.

Advertiser

Many lawyers and not a few laymen have had their say about "foolish laws and word-bound court machinery." The laws which forced a jury to return a verdict of guilty against the Massies and Mrs. Fortescue, most of us believe, were not made for such hard cases.

5-10-32

In the face of cold law books those who avenged a great wrong were guilty. But from evidence brought into the trial, it seems that the principles upon which laws are founded should in itself exonerate them. Most of us are intolerant of vengeance, but are possessed of a sense of justice that sometimes conflicts with our books of law.

Montgomery Ala

Massie's plea of insanity, some believe, showed a fallacy in our interpretation of law. He certainly was not insane in the sense recognized by law, but it was the only defense acceptable to the unemotional machinery of the court.

Our criminal codes are adopted from the English common law, and are the results of many years of test. No doubt changes could be made for the better, but laws, if interpreted by those with keen sense of Justice should not be "piffle and bunk."

Lynchings-1932

3665

Honolulu, Hawaii

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

A DARROW DEFENSE

Courier 4-16-32

Pittsburgh Pa.

FAR out in the Pacific Ocean is a little island where Americans go to play. It is known on the mainland as Hawaii. A few months ago an American lady left her husband and friends at a cabaret and strolled out, about midnight, unattended, for some purpose which has never been explained. She reported that she was attacked, and among those charged with the attack was a Hawaiian named Joe Kahahawai. This young man was arrested and tried for the assault, but the jury disagreed and he was released on bond pending a second trial. On June 9 this young man was found slain. At the time he was discovered he was in the automobile of a wealthy American lady named Mrs. Granville Fortescue. When the automobile was stopped by officers it is said it was headed toward a cliff, where it is charged Mrs. Fortescue and her companions in charge of the dead body intended to throw the slain man into the sea.

The people indicted and charged with the murder of this Hawaiian, including Mrs. Fortescue, are her brother, Robert Bell, Mrs. Thalia Massie, Mr. Thomas H. Massie, one Mr. E. J. Lord and a Mr. A. O. Jones.

When it was discovered that the case could not be "laughed out of court," the defendants sent to the mainland for Mr. Clarence Darrow to come to the island and defend those charged with the murder. At this writing the jury has been picked and, before many moons, we shall know whether these people are acquitted or convicted.

The peculiar feature of the case, and the one which absorbs our interest, is the deportment of Mr. Darrow. In this country Mr. Darrow is considered a great criminal lawyer. He has participated in several notorious cases and he has the reputation of defending anybody and everybody, regardless of race, creed, or color. He is looked upon as a man who builds his own defense.

If we are to believe the reports from Hawaii, Mr. Darrow undertook to select a jury which, in his opinion, would acquit his clients. It is nowhere reported that Mr. Darrow has said what his defense will be, but we have voluminous reports that Mr. Darrow was trying to get an all-American jury. He sought to exclude from his jury any of the natives of the island and spent considerable time in his effort, which finally resulted in selecting six Americans on the jury, with six other natives and so-called foreigners.

It is very evident that Mr. Darrow believes in selecting a jury to suit the circumstances of the cases, without paying any attention whatever to the evidence. What Mr. Darrow is asking is not justice for the defendants, but absolute acquittal. He knows there is absolutely no such thing as justice, and he is not seeking justice for his clients. He knows and fully appreciates the hypocrisy of American juries and he also fully appreciates what would happen to his defendants if he could bring them to the mainland and try them in an American court. What he is appealing to, or trying to appeal to, is a racial prejudice peculiar to the soil of the United States. Mr. Darrow wants an acquittal in order to sustain the Darrow reputation. He cares nothing about the law, because he knows the hypocrisy of the law.

The defendants are accused of what the newspapers in this country are pleased to call an "honor slaying." Just how any murder could be so defined in any other civilized country is impossible to imagine, but our American newspapers are referring to the case as though the defendants had slain the Hawaiian in defense of some woman's honor. This is not the case at all, and the facts show that this is not the case. The attack upon Mrs. Massie was made by somebody and the case was tried and the jury disagreed. That is one case. The question before the court is whether the defendants on trial murdered the Hawaiian. If they murdered him, they must show they murdered him for some reason recognized by the law as a justification for murder. Mr. Darrow knows this as well as any other criminal lawyer, and he is not relying upon any justification for the murder. He is relying upon a jury who will subscribe sufficiently to race prejudice to whitewash the defendants simply because they are Americans who subscribe to mob law, lynching, and murder whenever they feel like it.

People in the United States knew when Darrow was engaged that he would build a defense looking to the acquittal of his clients regardless of the facts and regardless of the law. But Mr. Darrow is in another country. He may succeed in having a disagreement, because he believes that a disagreement would amount practically to an acquittal, and this is Darrow's defense.

The way we do things in the United States does not make very favorable impressions upon people in other countries. It is a serious question whether Mr. Darrow will be able to set up mob law in Hawaii as a defense for people accused of murder.

Massie Holds To Original Story Of Slaying Under Cross-Examination

Advertiser

Montgomery Ala.

4-19-32

HONOLULU, April 18.—(AP)—The prosecution's avowed disbelief in Lieut. Thomas H. Massie's account of the killing of Joseph Kahahawai failed to daunt the young Navy officer today and he left the witness stand with his story intact except for a few irregularities brought out in cross questioning.

Public Prosecutor John C. Kelley carried out most of his examination after publicly announcing the belief that Massie did not hold the pistol which killed the young native and hinting that Albert O. Jones, another defendant, was the actual slayer. Kelley also termed as "the bunk" the defense effort to plead insanity for Massie.

Between Kelley's questions Massie testified he had wandered about the home of Mrs. Granville Fortescue, scene of the lynching, in a daze while Kahahawai died and while Mrs. Fortescue looked on. He said he had learned of his actions from Mrs. Fortescue and the other two defendants, Jones and E. J. Lord.

A contradictory note crept into the defense testimony, however, as Clarence Darrow, noted Chicago attorney representing the accused, called other witnesses.

This occurred during examination of Eugene Beebe, attorney.

Beebe, chairman of the judiciary committee in the Territorial House of Representatives and the same special counsel engaged by the Chamber of Commerce to prosecute the men accused of attacking Mrs. Thalia Massie, wife of the naval officer, contradicted one angle of Massie's story.

Massie had testified Beebe had told him it would be "all right to get a confession, but evidence of force must not show." Massie then told how he and the other defendants had abducted Kahahawai, one of the men accused of attacking Mrs. Massie.

Beebe admitted Massie had talked to him about this but denied discussing the method of getting a confession.

3665

Darrow's New Case

Courier 4-16-32

Pittsburgh Pa.

Unfortunately, Mr. Clarence Darrow stands a good chance to lose much of his prestige with Negroes and liberal whites by his participation in the Massie trial in Honolulu. Mr. Darrow's statement of his position on lynching was none too clear when he accepted the case, according to newspaper reports. Mr. Darrow was reported to have said he didn't favor lynching in all cases, which was the same thing as saying he favored it in some cases.

Mr. Darrow is an old man, who had made his name before the bar and had gone into retirement. In late years he had shown a philanthropic spirit, particularly toward Negroes and other oppressed peoples. He was held up as one of the last of the New England Yankees who believed in right and justice as such for everybody. He was not from New England, but he was from that stock which had settled in the Middle West.

Now Mr. Darrow is prevailed upon to come out of retirement and take a case which, on its face, from the Negro's point of view, is a very bad case. It is a clear case of lynching, and Mr. Darrow is to defend the lynchers. As an attorney Mr. Darrow can easily afford to do that, but as a man who has won the heart of a large section of his fellow Americans he could ill afford to do that. The very act of accepting that case by Mr. Darrow caused many people who had sworn by him to doubt Mr. Darrow's sincerity and his liberalism. Now he is in Honolulu, fighting as any other rabid cracker would fight, for a "white man's" rights as distinguished from the native's rights against whom the crime was committed. Mr. Darrow will use all the tricks learned in his more than 50 years before the bar to get those white people out of the jam they got into when they boldly lynched the Hawaiian native.

If Mr. Darrow gets these people acquitted, or if he gets a hung jury, which will mean the same thing, it will be no credit to him. It is an unfair trial from the very start, with the mainland newspapers yelling their heads off about an "honor" slaying. Mr. Darrow is simply in league with the lynchers, which is a tragic thing for those Negroes and liberal whites who had learned to hang on his words. He ought to know that he can't go back to the role of lawyer at his age and with his reputation, which is apart from and above his legal career, win a case like that, then suddenly take his old position of champion of the under-dog. Indeed, he is helping trample on the under-dog. For the under-dog is the Hawaiian who had his country taken away from him by big, strong America, and is now having his people spat upon by the mainland press.

The loser in this case is Clarence Darrow, Defender of the Weak. He has shown that few, if any, white men can be trusted to champion justice and fair play consistently, when it comes to white against black, no matter if the white man does have all the odds in his favor.

NO CRIME WAVE IN HAWAII

Age 4-16-32

New York N.Y.

Assistant Attorney General Seth W. Richardson, who was sent to make an official investigation of crime and law enforcement in Hawaii, growing out of the Massie-Fortescue murder case and the claims of admirals of the U. S. Navy that no white woman was safe from the forced attentions of natives, has submitted his findings to the U. S. Senate.

Mr. Richardson does not think the public reports with respect to the alleged proclivity of members of the Hawaiian race in sexual crime is substantiated by the facts. He was not impressed with the seriousness of alleged bad conditions on the public beaches. Much prostitution was found in the Territory, due largely to the large number of single men and the large number of service men (soldiers and sailors) stationed there.

Army and Navy conditions are reported normal. There is no particular racial resentment between the service units and the island population, and while Mr. Richardson admits that soldiers and sailors undoubtedly contribute materially to the crime situation, he does not think conditions are any different than exist on the mainland where an equal number of service men are stationed adjacent to an urban population.

There is no organized crime in Hawaii, no important criminal class and no criminal rackets, the assistant attorney general reports. The enforcement of the prohibition law compares favorably with efforts made along those lines in the United States. There is no substantial evidence of a crime wave and no present serious racial prejudices

Mr. Richardson in his report, does not in a single instance uphold and verify any of the sensational charges embodied in wild statements sent to Washington by high navy officials stationed on the islands, who, following the arrest of Mrs. Fortesque, Lieut. Massie and the two sailors for the murder of the native accused of criminally assaulting Mrs. Massie, pictured Hawaii in the grip of a crime wave and were hysterical in their assertions that white womanhood were in danger.

The admission is made by the assistant attorney general that sailors and soldiers from the mainland undoubtedly contribute materially to the crime situation. Available statistics shoud furnish interesting information on the subject, which could have been treated more specifically.

The absence of organized crime and criminal rackets in Hawaii is something for those in the United States, who liken the islands to a backward country, to seriously ponder over. Crime seems to thrive most where civilization is highest.

There is one paragraph in Mr. Richardson's report which in all probabilities has provoked many a smile at home and abroad, to-wit: "The enforcement of the prohibition law in Hawaii compares favorably with conditions on the mainland."

RACE LINES DRAWN IN HONOLULU TRIAL

Constitution
Atlanta, Ga
4-7-32

Attorneys Predict Selection of Jury Will Be Completed Friday.

BY WILLIAM H. [illegible]WING.

HONOLULU, April 6.—(AP)—Racial cross currents flowed through the jury box here today as opposing counsel sought to divert them to their own advantage in choosing a jury to try Mrs. Granville Fortescue and three navy men accused of lynching Joseph Kahahawai.

One after another, Anglo-Saxon, Chinese, Japanese, Hawaiian and Portuguese passed in and out of the box as Clarence Darrow and John C. Kelley fought a cautious battle.

The prosecution, led by Kelley, favored those of oriental extraction. The defense, directed by Darrow, famous Chicago attorney, inclined toward those of Nordic blood.

Three times Kelley used peremptory challenges to remove without cause Anglo-Saxons who had been drawn, and Darrow likewise struck off Hawaiians and orientals.

When the session ended there were three Americans, two Hawaiians, one Swede, one Portuguese, one Chinese-Hawaiian, a German, two Chinese and one Scot in the box. Each side had used eight of its 24 peremptory challenges.

Time after time both occidental and oriental was excused without either side using a peremptory challenge, when the individuals under questioning admitted they had fixed opinions as to the guilt or innocence of the quartet.

It appeared that the prosecution was gaining the edge in the fight, for when Anglo-Saxons were removed, members of the eastern races predominated among those drawn for replacements. This is due to the predominannce of men of Asiatic blood in Hawaii.

In spite of a slowing down of selections, both sides predicted a jury would be ready Friday, and the defense attorneys said it might be ready tomorrow.

Mrs. Fortescue maintained the same rigid composure she has shown since the start of the trial, but appeared in a costume of brighter colors than she wore at the outset of the case.

Many talesmen passed in and out of the jury box in short order, saying they had formed unalterable opinions, did not understand "big words" or were "not interested in the case."

Almost invariably the anglo-Saxon talesmen, expressing opinions on the case, were sympathetic with the defense and the orientals revealing their ideas, inclined toward the prosecution.

Another panel of 25 talesmen was summoned to appear tomorrow. Its roster showed a predominance of Asiatics.

For an hour Kelley and Darrow fenced over the selection of a man to replace Keneth Bankston, young American peremptorily removed by the prosecution.

An American talesman was next. He favored the defense and was dismissed. A Hawaiian said he was a friend of Kahahawai and made no secret of his sympathy with the prosecution; another American favored the defense and was dropped. A Portuguese finally was allowed to remain.

During the questioning Darrow heard a lecture on the duties of a juror from a young Chinese-American, Bernard Ahlo.

In clear English Ahlo told Darrow a juror "must forget what he has learned."

"That's right," said Darrow.

"A juror," continued Ahlo, "must discard his opinion before he comes into the courthouse."

"Sure," said Darrow.

After saying he went as far as the ninth grade in school Ahlo was allowed to stay in the jury box.

Mrs. Fortescue, who with her son-in-law, Lieutenant Thomas H. Massie, U. S. N., and E. J. Lord and Albert O. Jones, enlisted men of the navy, awaits quietly the picking of the jury, appeared today in a dark blue dress with hat to match.

It was learned that the defense was considering placing Mrs. Thalia Massie, wife of Lieutenant Massie and daughter of Mrs. Fortescue, on the stand presumably to testify regarding the assault upon her in which Kahahawai and four other men allegedly figured.

RICHARDSON SAYS TRIAL WILL EMBROIL PEOPLE

WASHINGTON, April 6.—(AP)—Assistant Attorney-General Richardson in his special report to the senate said the trial of the Fortescue murder case in Hawaii will embroil the "people of the territory of Hawaii in most unpleasant circumstances," but he added: "I see no way out of the situation but to go through with it."

The text of Richardson's report was made public today.

The assistant attorney-general expressed fear that the Hawaiian people will "take sides" and regardless of the verdict "it will not be surprising if a condition of racial antagonism, resentment and possible demonstrations should result."

He referred also to the prospective retrial of the Massie assault case in the same light.

He praised the banking, educational, religious and social welfare conditions in the islands.

DARROW DRAWS COLOR LINE IN LYNCH DEFENSE

Washington
D.C.

NEW YORK, N.Y.—Stirring up of race hatred and barring of all non-whites from the jury has been the policy of Clarence Darrow in Hawaii in his lynch-murder defense, according to press dispatches. Darrow, who was the candidate of the N.A.A.C.P. as defender of the Scottsboro boys, is engaged in the defense of Mrs. Cranville Fortescue, her son-in-law, Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, and two enlisted men charged with lynching and murdering a native Hawaiian, Joseph Kahahawai. Dispatches stated that Darrow excused one half-cast after another, and full blooded natives. Japanese and Chinese were looked on with equal disfavor by the defense.

"Racial cross-currents flowed through the jury box today as opposing counsel sought to divert them to their own advantage," a dispatch to the New York Times stated.

"Sharp drawn racial lines embittered the alleged honor slaying of four Americans today as the defense used peremptory challenge to obtain a jury of whites and prosecutors favored Orientals and half-castes," the World-Telegram said.

The N.A.A.C.P. attempted to draw Darrow into the Scottsboro case, paid him a large fee, said to have been $2,000, only to have his statement that he would not defend the Scottsboro boys. A promise that the fee would be returned in the form of a contribution to Scottsboro defense has not been kept by Darrow.

Testimony Ends In Murder Trial

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala

Lieut. Massie Is Pictured By Psychiatrist As Sane Killer Aroused To Anger

4-26-32

HONOLULU, April 25.—(AP)—Picturing Lieut. Thomas H. Massie as a sane, normal Southerner aroused to anger and vengeance when he shot Joseph Kahahawai, Dr. Joseph Catton, alienist, provided a vehement finale today to the prosecution's case against the naval officer and three others accused of the lynching.

Both sides rested and the trial reached the point of closing arguments after Dr. Catton and Dr. Robert Faus, city and county physician, had been called in a ast attempt to smash the insanity deense set up in behalf of Massie by two lienists.

Dr. Catton, San Francisco psychiatrist, vas the third mental expert to contend Massie was sane the moment he stood, istol in hand, before Kahahawai and eard the native allegedly confess atacking his wife, Mrs. Thalia Massie.

Heated clashes marked the questionng of Dr. Catton by Clarence Darrow, ged leader of the defense.

Testifying only from examination of he record—Darrow had refused to let he prosecution alienists observe Massie —Dr. Catton spoke to the jury with an mphasis that irked Darrow.

The San Francisco alienists, between nany defense objections, reviewed the story of the attack related on the stand by Massie. The detail of his narrative moved Mrs. Granville Fortescue, mother of Mrs. Massie and one of the accused, to violent sobbing. He referred to the plotting by Massie, Mrs. Fortescue and the other defendants, E. J. Lord and Albert O. Jones, and then went into his opinion.

Reminding the court that Massie was born in Kentucky, Dr. Catton said the naval officer's behavior in the Fortescue home the day of the tragedy was not the irresponsible act of an insane person, but the deliberate step of the young Southerner to avenge his wife's honor.

Dr. Catton said Massie's reactions were those of anger and fight, and those of a sane, normal man. He turned to the racially mixed jury and spoke with emphasis.

"I object," said Darrow. "Why can't he sit in his chair and talk like any other man? He doesn't have to emphasize his remarks. That isn't honest testimony."

"Has he any right to question my honesty?" Dr. Catton flared, turning to Judge Davis.

"I didn't say you were not honest," Darrow retorted.

"Well, I resent it," said Dr. Catton.

"All right, then, resent it," Darrow growled.

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Honolulu, Hawaii.

3666

Other Papers Say—

INTERFERING WITH THE LAW

[Beloit (Wis.) Daily News]

5/21/32

The general outcome of the sensational Massie trial in Honolulu is probably about what most people would have wanted it to be. On the evidence the jury could do no less than return a verdict of guilty. But the "unwritten law" impelled the governor to commute the sentences of those convicted of a killing committed under most serious provocation.

Justice still awaits complete fulfillment in trial of the four other Hawaiians accused of a most outrageous offense, but the prosecutor apparently is estopped from doing his duty by the spiriting away of the principal witness.

It was a matter of personal discretion with Lieutenant Massie whether he wanted to be responsible for this new turn in the case. But the employment of a U. S. naval vessel to enable the witness to elude a process server and the role even of a commanding naval officer (not Lieutenant Massie) in physically and forcibly checking the serving of a subpoena on the witness by a duly constituted civil officer injects an unusual element into the proceedings.

The public prosecutor at Honolulu has had a disagreeable, an unpopular and largely a thankless role in the Massie case, but he merely did his sworn duty in the murder trial, and he was merely proceeding to continue to do his sworn duty in the pending trial of the four Hawaiians. He may rightly feel that the forcible interposition by a military arm of the government to block the court processes of a civil arm, in spiriting away a witness, should call for some explanation.

Dispatches indicate this course of action may have been carried out upon the advice of Clarence Darrow, who declares in departing from Hawaii that law books are "a lot of bunk and piffle" and "the newspapers gave me a jury of 100,000,000 people to talk to."

Darrow has had a popular cause in this instance. On some other occasions his emotional pleas have got off some of the worst crooks unhung.

The philosophy that laws are "bunk and piffle" broadcast by a sworn officer of the courts is perhaps not very conducive in the long run to law and order.

It is a fair duty of newspapers to report trials like other news, but the hysteric attempts of some yellow journals in this case going far indeed to take the case out of court and try it in the streets up and down the nation and even in the halls of congress, and to use the occasion for rousing mass racial prejudice against the subject people of one of our island possessions, represents a questionable tendency.

Events have proved that the authorities, judicial and executive, could render substantial justice in the Massie case, but it is little thanks to our yellow journals and our Darrows screeching that laws are "a lot of bunk" that judges and juries and governors are able to render justice according to the law and the evidence, and the human equities involved in sensational trials.

MRS. MASSIE SLIPS INTO SECLUSION, EVADES SUBPOENA

Constitution

5-8-32

Process Servers, Seeking To Prevent Return to U. S. Until After Natives' Trial, Fail To Find Her.

Atlanta Ga.

HONOLULU, T. H., May 7.—(UP)—Mrs. Thalia Massie, sought by detectives who desired to serve a subpoena on her to appear May 25 as witness in the second trial of four islanders charged with attacking her, apparently had disappeared, officers said late today.

They said that when they went to the receiving ship Alton to serve the papers, Mrs. Grace Hubbard Fortescue, her mother, and Lieutenant Thomas H. Massie, her husband, who sail Sunday for the mainland, said that she was not aboard and that they did not know where she was.

They said they requested naval authorities to search the Pearl Harbor naval reservation for her and were informed that she was not there and had not left word where she would be.

Rumors that Mrs. Massie left secretly on the City of Los Angeles this morning for the mainland spread as the failure to find her became known. It was said she hurried aboard the liner to avoid service of subpoena in the case.

Another report was that she had already boarded the Matson line Malolo, which is to sail for San Francisco tomorrow.

Prosecutor John C. Kelley, who recently concluded trial of Lieutenant Massie, Mrs. Fortescue and E. J. Lord and A. O. Jones, enlisted men, on charges of killing Joe Kahahawai, was reported visiting friends on the other side of Oahu. He could not be reached

Mrs. Massie, despite a bitter exchange with Prosecutor Kelley during the trial of her husband and mother, was to be principal witness against the four remaining half-castes charged with brutally assaulting her.

Constitution

Mrs. Massie, it was known, was reluctant to appear at another trial of the four. Her attorney, Clarence Darrow, who defended her mother and husband, advised her not to accept service of subpoena. He characterized another trial of the men as "damned foolishness."

5-8-32

"This Ala Moana (the attack case) trial is a lot of damned foolishness," he said vehemently. "There's no chance of convicting those fellows and acquittal will simply start stories about Mrs. Massie. I advised her to leave."

Kelley admitted the subpoena was not strong enough, legally, to hold her.

"I am unwilling to go to the length of putting her in jail," he said.

Darrow, meantime, conferred with the governor.

"He has the pardon petition and pleas under advisement," he said.

"He received several new petitions this morning and will make known his decision shortly.

"It may be several days yet. I told him I didn't think a few days would make much difference.

"I'm pretty sure pardons will be granted.

Merchants, threatened with a $27,000,000 boycott by the navy, are understood to have pleaded with Governor Judd to issue the pardons that would remove the stigma of the conviction.

E. J. Lord and Albert O. Jones, the two enlisted men convicted with Lieutenant Massie and Mrs. Fortescue left today aboard destroyers bound for San Francisco.

Lynchers Fail to Get DePriest's O.K

Amsterdam News

Refuses to Support Bill Granting Pardon to Slayers of Hawaiian Upon Request of White Contingent

5-11-32

N.Y. city

WASHINGTON, May 9 (ANP).—Branding Lieut. Thomas H. Massie a "murderer," Congressman Oscar DePriest refused to support a resolution introduced in Congress by Representative Crisp of Georgia, asking that Massie be pardoned, as requested by a white constituent residing in Washington.

Thomas J. King of 1319 Massachusetts avenue, Washington, wrote Mr. DePriest, "As one of your constituents with a bona fide residence in the First Congressional district of Illinois, I am writing to request that you support the Crisp bill and the Bingham bill with a view to granting full pardon to Lieut. Thos. H. Massie and the three other defendants recently convicted of manslaughter in connection with the death of Joseph Kahahawai."

Mr. DePriest replied:

"Lieutenant Massie of the United States Navy deliberately conspired to kidnap and lure to his home and there murdered the victim of the conspiracy. In carrying out this diabolical plan, the four resorted to impersonation of an officer of the law.

"Lieutenant Massie is not entitled to any consideration in the matter of a pardon and I shall vote against any such action on the part of the House of Representatives.

"I am against all forms of mob law and lynch law; and am against any group that takes the law in its own hands.

"I am surprised at receiving a letter of the character of your communication from a law-abiding citizen like yourself and cannot understand how you can lend yourself to any such program as the pardon of Lieutenant Massie."

Continued

THE END OF CASE THAT STIRRED ALL AMERICA—Lieutenant and Mrs. Thomas H. Massie, Mrs. Granville Fortescue and their dog as they arrived in San Francisco from Honolulu. This marks the end of one of the most sensational trials in American history.

HAWAII TO RETRY 4 FOR MASSIE ATTACK

N.Y. Times

Prosecutor to Ask the Arrest of Mrs. Massie if She Is Not in Court at 9 A. M., May 25.

5-10-32

CONFESSION STORY PRINTED

Admiral Affirms Paper's Account of Admissions by Ida, Alleged Assailant, to Abductors.

HONOLULU, May 9 (AP).—Although the complaining witness sailed yesterday for the mainland, John C. Kelley, Honolulu's public prosecutor, announced today the trial of four youths charged with assaulting Mrs. Thalia Massie would start as scheduled on May 25. If Mrs. Massie was not in Circuit Judge A. M. Cristy's court by 9 A. M. that day, Mr. Kelley said, he would request a warrant for her arrest.

But, since he cannot enforce such a warrant beyond the jurisdiction of the court—which does not extend to the mainland—Mr. Kelley went on to explain, the trial would proceed whether Mrs. Massie was present or not.

Mr. Kelley, who recently prosecuted Mrs. Massie's mother, Mrs. Granville Fortescue; her husband, Lieutenant Thomas H. Massie, and two navy enlisted men for second degree murder and won a verdict of manslaughter, said he understood a subpoena calling for Mrs. Massie's appearance in court against the alleged assailants had been served on her before her ship sailed for San Francisco.

Kelley Says He Barred Force.

Lono McCallum, one of the policemen sent to the boat with the subpoena, was to report to Mr. Kelley on the service. Mr. Kelley said he had instructed Mr. McCallum not to use force.

"We wanted to avoid any further rows with the navy," he explained.

Dewey Mookini, a Hawaiian policeman, charged Captain Ward K. Wortman, commander of the naval submarine base at Pearl Harbor, with "assaulting" him when he tried to serve the subpoena on Mrs. Massie on the liner Malolo yesterday. Spectators said Captain Wortman pushed the policeman out of the way while Mrs. Massie ran past and made for her stateroom.

Interviewers sought out the naval officer today and asked him about the "confusion" aboard the ship.

"There wasn't any confusion," snapped Captain Wortman. "It was so crowded in the corridor I couldn't help bumping into Mookini."

Captain Wortman was Lieutenant Massie's superior officer at Pearl Harbor in the months before the junior officer was taken into custody, along with his mother-in-law and the two enlisted men, A. O. Jones and E. J. Lord, for killing Joseph Kahahawai, the Hawaiian who Mrs. Massie said broke her jaw in last September's assault.

Mr. Kelley said today he was without reliable information to substantiate the San Francisco Chronicle's story that Horace Ida, one of five youths charged last September with assaulting Mrs. Thomas H. Massie, had confessed to a group which last December abducted him.

Asked if he would offer immunity to Ida's kidnappers if they would come forward and supply him with the information contained in the Chronicle story, which was vouched for by Rear Admiral William C. Cole, Mr. Kelley said such an offer would be impossible.

Will Not Offer Immunity.

"I will offer immunity to nobody," he stated emphatically. "Besides, a confession obtained in that way"—referring to the threats to which Ida says he was subjected by his abductors—"would be of no value in court."

Ida has consistently denied he made any confession when kidnapped, although there have been many rumors in naval circles that he did.

Rear Admiral Yates Stirling Jr., commandant of the Pearl Harbor Naval Base, said today the naval tug used to carry theh Massie-Fortescue party from Pearl Harbor to the liner Malolo had been called into service, not to prevent service of the subpoena upon Mrs. Massie, but for the safety of the Lieutenant and the two women.

"We did not expect trouble, but we wished to avoid any possibility of it," he said.

He added he was not investigating the argument regarding the serving of the subpoena. Mrs. Massie was ailing, he said he was told, and he understood Captain Wortman merely insisted that Mr. Darrow should be with her when she accepted the process.

Admiral Stirling said an attempt at Pearl Harbor to start a boycott against Honolulu firms had been suppressed. He said when it was brought to his attention last week through the circulation throughout the navy yard of mimeographed sheets urging the boycott, he ordered all departments within the naval district to suppress the circular.

"It has been suppressed," he concluded.

Honolulu Tries to Forget.

With the departure of the Massie-Fortescue party there appeared in the city a definite effort by business leaders to end the public excitement which reached a climax with the conviction of Kahahawai's killers and commutation of their ten-year sentences by Governor Lawrence M. Judd to one hour each in the custody of the court.

Walter Dillingham, a local business man, came to the defense of the navy today and deprecated reports that the navy personnel on this island had ceased patronizing Honolulu merchants on account of the outcome of the Fortescue-Massie trial.

"Notwithstanding rumors to the contrary," he said, "I know the navy is to big in every way to drag recent events into a local economic boycott. The navy has been an active part of our community for more than a hundred years. The advantages of having it here are indispensable. The great benefit which the navy is to this community socially nad commercially is no secret. This benefit has been and still is greatly appreciated.

"On the other hand, the importance of this community to the army and the navy is very substantial. Our cooperation is national defense plans is vital to the success of the government is making Hawaii a Gilbraltar.

"Under the stress of recent events emotions have run high, but any suggestion of a serious break between the navy and the civilian community is just out of the question."

Massies Enjoy Quiet Day at Sea.

ABOARD THE LINER MALOLA, at sea, May 9 (AP).—After the strife of Honolulu, Lieutenant and Mrs. Thomas H. Massie enjoyed calm seas and sunshine today from their deck chairs as this big liner sped toward San Francisco. They apparently were unnoticed by other passengers.

Clarence Darrow, chief of defense counsel in the recent trial, was in good spirits. He played the ship's horse race, lost money, and quit. He is to speak Friday, after the arrival of the ship in San Francisco, before the bar association of that city.

Attacker Confessed, Paper Says.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 9 (AP).—The Chronicle, in a story vouched for by Rear Admiral William C. Cole, commandant of the Twelfth Naval District, says Horace Ida confessed to a group of nine men who kidnapped him last Dec. 12 he was one of five natives who attacked Mrs. Thalia Massie in Honolulu.

Further, the story says, Ida implicated Joseph Kahahawai, for whose slaying Lieutenant Thomas H. Massie, his mother-in-law, Mrs. Granville Fortescue, and two navy enlisted men were convicted of manslaughter, sentenced to serve ten years in prison and saved from serving all but one hour by the Hawaii Governor's commutation.

Other than Kahahawai, Ida named Henry Chang, another of the five men who were tried for attacking and brutally beating Mrs. Massie. The trial of the five ended in a jury disagreement. A retrial set for May 25 will not be held, since Mrs. Massie left Honolulu yesterday.

The Chronicle story reveals also it was planned to kidnap individually and separately upon the same night each of the five men charged with the assault.

"I believe the information given to The Chronicle is correct," Admiral Cole said.

The story, attributed only to "friends of Massie," says that after the mistrial of the five natives it was felt by "numerous people in Honolulu" that "justice had been thwarted" and that a few holders of this viewpoint formulated plans of "dealing directly with the defendants."

It continues: "Plans were formulated to contact each defendant and secure his version of the unforunate affair. In order to shorten the proceedings, the decision was reached to interview the defendants on the same evening, but at separate places.* * *

"Ida was taken up in the Pali Mountain region, overlooking Honolulu, where the purpose of the trip was made known to him and he was requested to state his version of the Ala Moana affair.

"As was expected, he announced he knew nothing of the assault and commenced to recite the story he had told on the witness stand.* * * The narrative was broken into by several questions, one being:

" 'Was the woman in the front seat with you?' to which, much to the astonishment of the listeners, Ida replied:

" 'No, she was in back with Chang and Ka—' "

"Ida suddenly realized the import of his answer and immediately announced again he was not there and didn't know anything about the case.

"His nervousness was quite apparent, yet those present seemingly paid no attention to his significant remark and urged him to continue his story. Shortly before his recital was finished, a questioner asked him if he was the first to attack Mrs. Massie. He replied:

" 'No, Chang was first and last.'

"Ida was so frightened after making this statement that he almost collapsed." Ida's fright, the time he had been held and the desire of his questioners to learn from the other groups what the other defendants had said, The Chronicle says, led the interrogators to return to Honolulu. None of the four tried for Kahahawai's slaying, the paper adds, was in the group.

Ida's kidnapping stirred all Honolulu at the time and resulted in rioting and the calling of the military to aid police in preserving peace. He reported to Honolulu police that he had been kidnapped, and beaten in an attempt to wring a confession from him but that he did not confess.

Senate Bills Not Reported.

WASHINGTON, May 9 (AP).—The Senate Judiciary committee today failed to take up the bill of Senator McKellar for a Congressional pardon for the four Americans convicted of manslaughter in the slaying of Joseph Kahahawai in Honolulu.

The committee likewise failed to consider the measure of Senator Logan, conferring upon the President the power of pardon in Territorial cases.

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Honolulu, Hawaii.

3667

Age 5-14-32

New York, N.Y.

GETTING AWAY WITH MURDER.

Commenting on the commutation by Gov. Judd of the ten-year terms imposed by Circuit Judge Charles S. Davis on Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, his mother-in-law, Mrs. Granville Fortescue, and the two navy enlisted men, Albert O. Jones and E. J. Lord, convicted of murdering Joseph Kahahawai, a native, Princess Kawananakoa, a leader of her people and Republican National Committeewoman for Hawaii, said:

> **"With this commutation, the verdict of a jury composed of men with intelligence, sound judgment and good character, with the facts and the law before them, becomes a farce, and the truth as brought out by the prosecution becomes a travesty. Are we to infer from the Governor's act that there are two sets of law in Hawaii—one for the favored few and another for the people generally?"**

Princess Kawananakoa and the citizens of Hawaii are not alone in wondering if American jurisprudence has become elastic as a rubber band, easily bent, twisted, and made amenable to expediency. The outcome of the sensational Honolulu trial has given all believers of orderly government good cause to inquire if we are to have one law for the classes and another for the masses. The conviction of the four defendants for manslaughter and their release without serving time in jail, although sentenced to ten years each, incontrovertibly proves that you can "get away with murder" if you are influential enough to have the law subordinated to hysteria and public clamor.

Now that the jingo press in the United States and our irate lawmakers at Washington have been pacified, we are told that prospect of peace has come to Honolulu. However, we very much doubt it. Senator Reed of Pennsylvania was the only member of Congress who had the moral courage to speak the truth, when he warned:

> **"I think Gov. Judd has made a very serious mistake which will turn up to plague the future administration of justice in Hawaii."**

The impression will persist that Gov. Judd did not commute the sentences of his own will and accord, but that pressure from the mainland caused him to show the slayers of Kahahawai such unusual consideration. The honor of "white womanhood" and the U. S. Navy was at stake. "To hell with the law" was the battle cry of Congressmen, the yellow journals and those suffering from an acute superiority complex. Even after the sentence of ten years had been imposed and then commuted to one hour imprisonment, the three men and one woman were not taken to jail but held in custody in the Iolani Palace.

Congressmen sworn to uphold the law and the Constitution are now busily engaged in a movement to have the "stigma" of one hour's imprisonment removed, and one Senator wants President Hoover to give the four Americans a full and complete pardon to recompense them for all they have gone through. When Prosecutor Kelley told the jury that if Lieut. Massie were acquitted he, in all probabilities, would be made an admiral, it may have been biting sarcasm but it contained elements of truth.

Lieut. Massie testified that he had bought whiskey which he carried to the club on the night of the alleged rape. He admitted that he killed Kahahawai. He and the three co-defendants were convicted of manslaughter, sentenced to a term of ten years and actually served time, one hour in a palace. Ordinary citizens are arrested and sent to jail for violating the Prohibition Amendment. Gen Smedley Butler created a furore when he accused another officer in the marines of drinking at a social gathering. It may be that the prevailing sentiment in Washington will be to absolve the lieutenant from these confessed acts of commission, give a clean bill of health and permit him to remain in the service.

Immediately after the release of the four prisoners, Clarence Darrow announced he would request the Territory to abandon the prosecution of the four men accused with Kahahawai of criminally assaulting Mrs. Thalia Massie, a gesture seemingly made to keep down any wave of resentment among Hawaiians over the Gov. Judd's act in commuting the sentences. The suspects were tried weeks ago and the jury was unable to reach a verdict. They are entitled to another hearing when their guilt or innocence should be conclusively proven.

Princess Kawananakoa was not guilty of an overstatement when she said that as the result of the commutation, the verdict becomes a farce and the truth in the case a travesty. "Prestige" may have been upheld, but at a terrible cost. Faith in and respect for the sanctity of the law have been seriously undermined. Thousands of law-abiding Americans are saying: "You can kill, be convicted and then get away with it if you have pull;" and Communistic agitators in the United States have been provided with ammunition for use in arguments in support of their contention that immunity from legal punishment depends upon who and what you are.

A precedent has been set which will have a most unfavorable reaction not only in Hawaii but throughout the United States

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Massie's Wife Eludes Order to Stay on Isle

Chicago Tribune

5/8/32

HONOLULU, May 7.—(AP)—Mrs. Thalia Massie, who is reported suffering from a nervous breakdown, was sought unsuccessfully today by police who held a subpœna demanding her presence May 25 at the retrial of the four Hawaiians accused of her rape.

Mrs. Massie had planned to sail tomorrow for the mainland with her husband, Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, who, with her mother, Mrs. Granville Fortescue, and two enlisted men, was convicted of manslaughter for the slaying of Joseph Kahahawai, one of her alleged attackers.

The failure of the police attempt to locate Mrs. Massie left her contemplated departure in doubt.

Fail to Find Her.

Two policemen, Dewey Mookini and Arthur Stagbar, took the subpœna to Pearl Harbor after Public Prosecutor John C. Kelley had been assured naval authorities would permit its service. The navy yard is a government reservation.

They did not see the woman they sought, although they returned to the city with the assurance of naval authorities that they would be notified as soon as Mrs. Massie could be found.

Mookini and Stagbar said that after driving to the administration building and paying their respects to Read Admiral Yates Stirling, commandant of this naval district, they traveled to the old ship Alton, which was "jail" for Lieut. Massie, Mrs. Fortescue, and the two sailors from the time Kahahawai was killed until they served one hour in custody this week on conviction of manslaughter.

Admiral Orders Search.

Aboard the ship they found Lieut. Massie and Mrs. Fortescue, but not Mrs. Massie. Both the officer and his mother-in-law told the police they did not know her whereabouts. Officers on the ship also professed ignorance, the police reported.

Admiral Stirling instructed Capt. F. J. Horne, his chief of staff, to conduct a search and advised the process servers they would be notified of the result.

Officials considered Mrs. Massie had no intention of remaining here for the retrial of her accused attackers—the first trial having ended with the jury deadlocked on the question of guilt or innocence—and had balked the efforts of the territory to keep her from leaving with her husband and family.

E. J. Lord and Albert O. Jones, the two enlisted men convicted with Lieut. Massie and Mrs. Fortescue, left today aboard destroyers bound for San Francisco.

DARROW FIGHTS TO GET PARDONS IN MASSIE CASE

Navy Orders Officer to California.

Chicago Tribune

5/6/32

HONOLULU, May 5.—(AP)—A fight to the finish to obtain complete pardons for the four Americans who received commuted sentences in Hawaii's honor killing case was announced today as the principals prepared to leave the islands.

CLARENCE DARROW.
[A. P. Photo.]

"There is no reason in the world why a person deserving punishment of no more than an hour should lose his citizenship," said Clarence Darrow, 75 year old attorney who defended the four convicted of manslaughter in the killing of Joseph Kahahawai. Darrow conferred today with Gov. Lawrence M. Judd regarding a full pardon for the quartet.

Fight for Citizenship.

"They ought to have a full pardon," he said of Mrs. Granville Fortescue, her son-in-law, Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, and the two other navy men, Albert O. Jones and E. J. Lord, whose ten year sentences were commuted to one hour. The commutation did not restore their citizenship.

The veteran defender and territorial attorney general, Harry R. Hewitt, engaged in an exchange over the circumstances of the petition for executive clemency that gained the four their commutation.

"They wrote that, we didn't; we just signed it," Darrow said. "When you are in a hole and somebody offers you something, you don't stop to ask for more, do you?"

By "they" Darrow referred to the office of Attorney General Hewitt, who countered by saying the petition for clemency signed by Mrs. Fortescue and the navy men was prepared by his office at the instance of the defense.

After the conference between Darrow and Gov. Judd the latter said the attorney discussed a possible request for a pardon, but did not actually ask one. The governor said Darrow requested another conference Saturday.

Gov. Judd joined Mr. Hewitt in saying the request for the commutation had been sponsored by the defense and not by the administration. The governor said his attitude on commutation had not changed.

"At no time was a pardon mentioned," he said.

Mind Open to Arguments.

Asked if he had made up his mind on the question of a pardon, Gov. Judd said his mind was open to arguments.

Mrs. Massie today said she and her husband as well as Mrs. Fortescue, Jones and Lord would sail for San Francisco Sunday on the liner Malolo. This followed word from Washington that Lieut. Massie had been transferred to the California city and that orders were expected which would take Jones and Lord, the two sailors, back to the mainland.

The young victim of the brutal attack which led to the killing of the native thus indicated she would not remain here to appear once more against the four remaining men still facing criminal assault charges. Without Mrs. Massie, the territory would not prosecute the group.

Prosecutor John C. Kelley indicated late today that the men would not be retried. The territory, said the prosecutor, did not intend to force Mrs. Massie to testify if she did not desire to do so.

Massie Assigned to Pacific Coast.

Washington, D. C., May 5.—(AP)—Obviously intent upon concluding the Fortescue-Massie slaying case, Secretary of the Navy Adams today said no disciplinary action would be taken against naval personnel involved and Lieut. Thomas H. Massie was ordered to another station. Plans in congress to give legislative relief to the four persons convicted of slaying an Hawaiian accused of attacking Massie's wife meanwhile were allowed to rest.

With the recommendation of Rear Admiral Yates Stirling, commandant of the Honolulu naval district, before it, the navy department ordered Massie to duty in the San Francisco naval district. The officer's orders are effective immediately.

The department was awaiting a further recommendation from Admiral Stirling on possible orders to the two enlisted men, Albert O. Jones and E. J. Lord, for transfers to another district.

HONOLULU SLAYING PRINCIPALS ARRIVE

Advertiser

Mrs. Fortescue, Defiant, Says There Are No Regrets; Darrow No Sailor

5-14-32

SAN FRANCISCO, May 13.—(AP)—With but one defiant glance toward the past and hoping that the future will prove more kind, the four principals of the recent honor slaying trial of Honolulu arrived here today aboard the liner Malolo.

Montgomery
Ala.

On the deck of the steamer, as it came into the dock was Lieut. Thomas H. Massie. On his right, arm crooked in his, was his young wife, Thalia, and on his left was Clarence Darrow, veteran lawyer who came from retirement to defend them.

They had just bid farewell to Mrs. Granville Fortescue, socially prominent mother of Mrs. Massie, who left the ship in a naval launch to connect with an eastbound plane and rejoin her husband in New York.

Massie, Mrs. Fortescue and two seamen, E. J. Lord and Albert O. Jones, were convicted of manslaughter in connection with the slaying of Joseph Kahahawai, accused of attacking Mrs. Massie last September.

Sentences of 10 years each at hard labor were commuted to an hour by Gov. Lawrence M. Judd, of Hawaii. They were confident today that full pardon for all shortly would be forthcoming.

A gesture of defiance came from Mrs. Fortescue as she prepared to leave the boat.

"We have been through much suffering," she said, "but I have no regrets for what happened in Honolulu. We rejoice now that it is all over and that we are free."

None of them would discuss the trial but all were willing to discuss their future plans.

"Thalia and I are concentrating on the future now," Massie said, "and mine is largely in the hands of the Bureau of Navigation. What we want to do more than anything else is to slip away for a few days and visit with my mother at Winchester, Ky. I have been told that possibly I have a month's leave coming. If so that's where we're going."

Darrow, who passed his 75th birthday while defending the four, was glad to be rid of "being a sailor."

"I am glad to be on land again," he said. "I was sick most of the way from Honolulu."

Darrow again praised the newspapers for their part in "getting freedom for these people."

The other two defendants in the trial, Jones and Lord, are en route to San Pedro on another ship.

Massies Sail; Naval Captain and Cop Clash

Chicago Tribune

5/9/32

HONOLULU, T. H., May 8.—(AP)—Lieut. and Mrs. Thomas H. Massi and her mother, Mrs. Granville Fotescue, sailed aboard the S. S. Malol for San Francisco at noon today after heavy fisted naval officers prevented service of a subpoena upon Mrs. Massie as she boarded the craft through a cargo port. The subpoena had been issued in order to hold Mrs. Massie in Honolulu as a prosecution witness in the second trial of the four remaining members of the Hawaiian gang which is charged with raping her.

Shortly before the Malolo was due to sail, while a huge flower bedecked throng waited at the dock in expectation of seeing the defendants in the recent Joseph Kahahawai murder trial, a gray submarine tender from Pearl Harbor drew up alongside the liner, opposite the pier.

Hurriedly, Massie, his wife, and Mrs. Fortescue stepped aboard the vessel through a cargo port.

Starts Reading Subpoena.

Dewey Mookini, a Honolulu politician was waiting with a subpoena in his hand. He started reading it to Mrs. Massie.

Capt. Ward K. Wortman, Massie's companion at the submarine base, lowered a heavy shoulder and collided with Mookini.

Mrs. Massie darted up the corridor.

"I shall report you to your superior officer," Wortman stormed.

"You assaulted me," Mookini retorted.

Wortman thrust Mookini back against the wall while Mrs. Massie reached her stateroom and slipped inside. Mrs. Fortescue followed her.

Door Slammed in His Face.

Mookini thrust past Wortman, pushed upon the door and sought to read the subpoena again.

The door was slammed in his face. Then Mrs. Fortescue, her eyes blazing, opened the door and came out.

"Will some one go for Mr. Darrow?" she asked.

Wortman and Mookini stood outside the doorway and laced each other up and down, each accusing the other of taking the offensive.

"Don't ever lay your hands on me again," Wortman said.

"You can't give me orders," Mookini shot back.

"Say 'sir' when you speak to me!" thundered Wortman.

"You say 'sir' to me, then," said Mookini. "I am entitled to some respect.

"Yes, you are entitled to some respect," Wortman said sarcastically.

Massie Is Calm.

Massie, who had walked up, meanwhile, was calm. He seemed to have a quieting effect on his superior officer and on Mookini.

Clarence Darrow, counsel for Massie, Mrs. Fortescue, and the two navy enlisted men, Albert O. Jones and E. J. Lord, in the murder trial, did not participate in the fray. He also is sailing on the ship.

A small cluster of people stood at the end of the corridor watching.

Massie walked up to Mookini and put his hand out. Mookini accepted it.

"No hard feelings here," said Massie. "I know what your duty is."

"Sure, the same as yours," Mookini agreed.

Then Wortman extended his hand and he and Mookini made up.

"Now that's the fine way to look at it," Mookini said, while Wortman grinned.

Meanwhile, the subpoena had not been served. Two of Mookini's companions, Arthur Stagbar and Lolo McCallum, members of the detective force, had stood quietly during the clash between Wortman and Mookini.

Lynchings-14.2

Kentucky

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Princeton, Ky. Leader
Tuesday, June 7, 1932

MERRICK LYNCHING WILL BE PROBED

Accompanying Likeness Was Furnished The Leader By Herald-Post

When the Herald-Post reporter and camera man was assigned to the task of obtaining the picture of Walter Merrick, appearing below, during the stay of the accused man in Louisville he little imagined the fate in store for his subject.

The taking of Walter Merrick, accused of bombing the M. P'-Pool store at Hopson, from county jail last Tuesday night and his subsequent hanging by a mob to a small tree bordering on the a shortdistance short distance off the Cadiz highway, has stirred the people of this county as seldom before.

In his instructions to the Grand Jurors yesterday, upon occasion of opening of the June term of court Judge Charles H. Wilson took special care to order proper investigation of the miserable affair.

Walter Merrick was born and reared in the Hopson section of this county, and at the time of his death owned a small farm about a mile from the store. He was a hard working, frugal man, reported to posess a violent temper. Upon the occasion of his arrest for the bombing of the store at Hopson, he was confined in the local jail, but due to fear of violence, was transported to Louisville against his wishes, as he stated that he was safe in Princeton. However, once in the big city he was delighted with the cosmopolitan atmosphere.

Mr. Merrick's body was taken to the farm home by the Homer Brown ambulance Wednesday, and funeral services were held from that place.

Madisonville, Ky. Hustler
Friday, June 10, 1932

Wilson Orders Probe Of Lynching At Princeton

Following empaneling of the grand and petit juries at Monday's session of the Caldwell circuit court at Princeton, Judge Charles H. Wilson began work on the criminal docket. Instructions to the grand jury to investigate tse recent lynching of Walter Merrick, were delivered.

Merrick was taken from the Princeton jail Tuesday night by a masked mob and hanged. He was to have been tried June 13 on charges of dynamiting the store of M. P. Pool last February. The dynamiting, officers charged, was the outgrowth of ill feeling over a law suit.

Commonwealth Attorney John L. Grayot, Madisonville, is conducting the prosecution of criminal charges.

Cadiz, Ky., Record
Thursday, June 23, 1932

Merrick Lynchers Not Indicte

By Caldwell County Grand Jur In Session At Princeton.

Report Of Jury Tells Of Thorough Investigation And Exonerates The Jailer

Explaining in a written report to Circuit Judge Charles H. Wilson that it had been unable to find evidence upon which to indict any member of the mob, the Caldwell couny grand jury investigating the lynching at Princeton on May 31st of Walter Merrick, closed its probe of the case and adjourned finally on Wednesday of last week.

Merrick, a resident of Caldwell county, but well-known in Trigg where many relatives live, was held in the Caldwell cunty jail at Princeton in connection with the dynamiting of the general merchandise store of M. P'Pool at Hopson, near the county line between Trigg and Caldwell, in which P'Pool suffered most serious injuries and a boy's leg broken.

The report of the jury to Judge Wilson stated the jurors had examined every person mentioned as having any knowledge of the case, had made a thorough investigation and had been unable to identify any member of the mob that overpowered the jailer and took Merrick from his cell. The report expressed the belief of the jurors that the jailer was not at fault as he was surprised and overpowered before he could give an alarm.

Members of the jury signing the report were John E. Young, W. L. Littlefield, W. R. Board, Floyd Hunter, James C. Wright, J. W. McChesney, A. B. Cantrell and Alvin Brown.

—o—

In regard to a reward offered fo those responsible for the death ot Merrick, a special from Princeton of June 18th says:

John W. Taylor, representative of the American Civil Liberties Union, said today he had notified Gov. Ruby Laffoon and Sheriff Pres Blackburn that the union has posted $500 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of persons responsible for the lynching of Walter Merrick last week.

Merrick was taken from the Caldwell county jail by a band of men. His body was found hanging from a tree the next morning. Merrick was in jail on a charge of dynamiting the store of M. P'Pool, who was seriously injured by the blast.

Taylor is a native of Caldwell county and returned here as an investigator for the American Civil Liberties Union to probe the lynching. He has aided the union in several investigations in the past.

Lynchings-1932

Indiana

3669

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Let Us Go Foward, Not Backward

Indianapolis Indiana Recorder 7-24-32

(An

The comparatively recently enacted Indiana anti-lynching law is in danger of being tampered with. Sinister influences are at work to render impotent this piece of famous legislation; Embodied in a recent move is a teeth extraction process to which advocates would have the law subjected. The passing of the states' anti-lynching measure became necessary two years ago following the cowardly murder at Marion of two members of our group. Citizens of Indiana recall with a feeling of humiliation the savagery of the mob that rushed the jail, forcibly took possession of the youthful victims and brutally snuffed out their lives on the Grant county court house lawn. Thus with a single stroke the fair name of Indiana was submerged in the mire of the stencky category of a mob rule state; reduced to the loose status of the rankest southern community; changed unfortunately in character and administratively to the Georgia, Mississippi and Texas class of lynch states. Never to be forgotten, the regrettable disgrace will always be indelibly impressed upon the minds of law abiding and peace loving citizens of this commonwealth.

And now comes Senator Addison Drake of Fairbanks with one of the most objectionable legislative propositions in all of Hoosierdom's history. His pet scheme is to introduced a bill amending the Indiana anti-lynching law. Of course that should never be because it is wrong. If permitted, this man will tear down the state's only real mob rule preventative and substitute in its stead some sort of a weak-kneed and absolutely toothless measure. The result would be a step backward into the dark days of treachery and mob murder out of which we have just emerged with Indiana's anti-lynching law.

Here is a case where an attempt is being made to re-expose the lives of citizens to barbarous and irresponsible mobs, lynch law adherents and sneaky, cowardly murderers. The Senator, we think should let well enough alone in respect and devote his time to

thoughts more progressive and humanitarian. Why not develope an idea that will help the state out of its present economic calamity? Certainly that would be infinitely more beneficial to all of us than a loose law permitting murder to go unpunished. Just that, and nothing less would be the price of any such successful venture upon which Addison is now embarking. The thing to do is to leave Indiana's sharp teeth anti-lynching law completely alone. To do so would be to drive murderers out of the state. That would at least make lynch laws unnecessary in Indiana. Let the Senator from Fairbanks contribute to progress by dropping this pet bill of his. Let us go forward, not backward.

Indiana

3670

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment of Lynchers

MUNCIE, IND.
EVE. PRESS

JUL 23 [illegible]

COUNTIES TO PAY FOR LYNCHING?—

ALTHOUGH it is not exactly clear at this distance just what connection there is between lynching and reducing the costs of government, for which latter purpose the state legislature ostensibly was called in special session, lynching bills have been introduced and are arousing much interest. One would make heavy damages recoverable from lynchers by the victim's relatives. Another would make it compulsory upon a county in which a lynching takes place to pay $10,000 to the victim's family.

The latter is the only practical measure. The community in which a mob arises to damage property and perhaps to kill, should be made responsible for all acts of mob violence. If a county cannot control its own people, then it should be made to pay and pay heavily for its incapacity to preserve law and order. It might be that the knees of peace officers would stiffen a bit under pressure of the taxpayers if it were the law that a lynching would cost these taxpayers a large sum.

The only fault with the bill to penalize the county $10,000 in such a situation is that $10,000 is not enough. Fifty thousand would be better. Almost any county would feel a sum as large as that.

Lynchings-1932.

Kansas.

3671

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

SHERIFF EXONERATED IN KANSAS LYNCHING

Constitution 4-20-32 Atlanta Ga.

ATWOOD, Kan., April 19.—(AP)—Following a hearing here today, Governor Harry Woodring announced the reinstatement of A. A. Bacon as sheriff of Cheyenne county. Bacon was suspended automatically under the Kansas mob law when Richard Read confessed attacker and slayer of 8-year-old Dorothy Hunter was taken from his custody and lynched.

Governor Woodring said the hearing today had convinced him that Bacon used every available means to protect the prisoner.

His Job Gone

Telegraph 4-20-32 Ga.

Under operation of the Kansas law, the sheriff who was in charge of Henry Read, lynched by a mob of Kansas farmers, has lost his job. In Kansas a sheriff who loses his prisoner to a mob automatically cuts himself off from the state payroll. It is a good law. It might sometimes do a sheriff an injustice, but we do not recall any instance in Georgia except the Frank case, where the prisoner was taken out of the state farm, in which injustice would have been done. It is possible, of course, that we are wrong—we frequently are—but our contention has always been that any sheriff who desires to protect a prisoner from a mob and has the courage to do so can retain possession of the prisoner against any ordinary mob. The question usually is how much intestinal fortitude the sheriff has.

Kansas.

3672

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

INQUIRY IN LYNCHING ORDERED BY GOVERNOR

Kansas Executive Acts After Futile Inquest.

4/19/32

RETURN OPEN VERDICT

"Identity Unknown," Is Result of Coroner's Jury Sitting on Death of Confessed Attacker and Slayer of Schoolgirl.

Memphis Commercial Appeal

By The Associated Press.

ATWOOD, Kan., April 18.—An investigation started by Gov. Harry H. Woodring was under way here tonight in an attempt to learn the identity of members of a mob that lynched Richard Read, slayer of eight-year-old Dorothy Hunter.

"Identity unknown" was the verdict of a coroner's jury after a brief inquest.

Mob Heavily Armed.

About 200 men, heavily armed, were in the mob that hanged Read from a tree near here early today after taking the confessed kindaper and attacker of the Selden, Kan., school girl, from the Cheyenne County jail at St. Francis last night.

Most of the mobsmen presumably were from Selden and vicinity.

Governor Woodring, who was in Atwood on a speaking tour, directed the state and county authorities to use every means to identify the lynchers and placed Attorney General Roland Boynton in charge of the investigation.

The governor said that he believed the local authorities had used every precaution to protect Read. The lynching was the first in Kansas since 1920.

Sheriff A. A. Bacon of Cheyenne County, who was overpowered by the mob, was automatically ousted from office under provision of the Kansas mob law for the loss of his prisoner.

The inquest offered little aid to the authorities. Officials were the only witnesses. Dr. Charles E. Hennenberger, Rawlins County coronor, testifier Read, 53-year-old bachelor-farmer, had been strangled by the noose.

The mob which hanged Read on the only tree within miles of the scene of his crime, was the third which sought his life since he was arrested on his farm in Thomas County south of her Friday.

Took Officers.

The 200 armed men in motor cars entered St. Francis, seized Sheriff Bacon at a filling station, a monent later overpowered his deputy, J. H. Indors, obtained the keys to the jail and departed with Read and the sheriff. Two miles out of town Sheriff Bacon was released.

The mob then continued toward the field where Read had hidden the girl's body in a haystack. It was remembered that the nearest tree was five miles away on the Ed Lymann ranch.

Read was taken to the lonely ravine where the elm tree stands. A rope was placed about his neck.

The mob was silent. A leader gave a signal. The rope tightened and Read was swung to his death.

Read made a signed statement to Guido E. Smith, Thomas County attorney, in which he told of luring Dorothy into his automobile, driving over the prairie, later attacking and slaying her. He once served a sentence in the Colorado penitentiary for attacking a 15-year-old girl.

Lynchings-1932

Kentucky

3673

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

$500 FOR KENTUCKY LYNCHERS

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—(ANP)—The Civil Liberties Union has posted at Princeton, Ky., a reward of $500 for information leading to the lynching of Walter Merrick, a white man, who was accused of dynamiting a neighbor's store

Louisville, Ky. Courier-Journal
Saturday, June 25, 1932

At least the Caldwell County lynchers bear the infamy of having a price on their heads. It may be as hard to sleep under as a crown, $900 being "important money" as currently reckoned.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
TIMES
JUL 19 1932

KENTUCKY LYNCHERS FREE; OFFICERS REFUSE TO TAKE ANY STEP TO ARREST THEM

"I've Got Nothing to Say," Is Only Answer Sheriff Will Give; County Attorney Won't Make It His Business.

KU-KLUX TERRORS ARE FEARED

Suspect in Bombing of Store Dragged From Jail and Hanged After Beating by Mob; Grand Jury "Can't Find Evidence."

BY JAMES W. BELL
Times Staff Writer

PRINCETON, Ky., July 19.—On the night of May 31, mob law broke out in Caldwell county. A man awaiting legal trial was taken from jail and condemned to death by a mob, which hanged him to a tree after beating him.

In the seven weeks since no one has been arrested.

"I have nothing to say about the lynching," said Sheriff P. J. Blackburn. "The sheriff's office is not an information bureau. Whatever I have to say on matters pertaining to my office will be said in the court and in the courts only."

County Attorney [illegible] Hardin also [illegible] as to any [illegible]rts to arrest the mob members. He says he has not talked to any members of the family of the man murdered by the mob since the lynching concerning plans to apprehend the lynchers or on any other subject.

The victim was Walter Merrick, 42, owner of a farm on which he lived near Hopson, ten miles south of Princeton.

Two Are Badly Hurt

He was awaiting trial on an indictment charging him with bombing the store of Millard P'Pool, Hopson merchant, Feb. 9. P'Pool, in the store, and Harold Nabb, 13, standing on the front porch were hurt badly. The boy has recovered but P'Pool still is using crutches.

Merrick was arrested on suspicion based largely on enmity between him and P'Pool. He was arrested at his home a few hours after the explosion. It was said that anger over a disputed $1.70 grocery bill had been fanned by a whipping Merrick's son received in school. P'Pool is prominent in politics and business in Caldwell county. His unusual name is a shortening of the original family name of Pettipool.

One Dog Was Used

It was reported officially that "bloodhounds" had led deputies from the ruins of P'Pool's store to Merrick's home. Later grand jury inquiry brought out it was one police dog.

Public opinion divided sharply as to this evidence. Reports were current that P'Pool had incurred the enmity of moonshiners or bootleggers.

Governor Ruby Laffoon, for the commonwealth, offered $200 reward in the bombing case.

But it was more than a month after the lynching that Laffoon offered a $200 award for convicting evidence against the lynchers. This was on condition, which was met, that Caldwell county offer a like sum.

Can't Find Evidence

The American Civil Liberties Union widely announced $500 reward for information leading to arrest of any participant, charging that the names of men in the mob "are well known to many in the community." A grand jury, questioning persons near the scene reported it "was unable to find evidence of any nature showing any person that was in the mob or had anything to do with it."

In instructing this grand jury, Circuit Judge Charles W. Wilson of Smithland said:

"Mob violence is violation of the law and the court calls attention to that and it is your duty to investigate and if you have evidence of the guilty parties it is your duty to indict.

"It is a serious thing, but no more serious than violation of any other law."

"I only talked to the sheriff a little while over the telephone on the night the mob hanged Walter," Mrs. Mattie Merrick, 34, widow, said.

Ku-Klux Terrors Feared

"'They hung Walter,' he told me, and then asked what I wanted to do with the body. I told them to bring it home. He never said anything to me about arresting the persons who did it, nor communicated with me in any way.

"I have never been to see the sheriff because I don't feel that it would do any good."

Feeling is running high here and throughout Caldwell county over the lynching. There is some fear that the terrors of the old night riders and the more recent Ku-Klux Klan which had 1,000 members in Caldwell county, again are imminent.

W. J. Miller, attorney, who fought the Klan here at the height of its power, places the present Klan strength here at "an active 150 men."

That the lynching of Merrick was well organized is indicated by the fact that almost four months elapsed between the bombing and the lynching. Excitement over the bombing had subsided.

Witnesses said the "mob" was composed of about twenty men who took Merrick from jail just before midnight, working silently and quickly. No disturbance prefaced the lynching.

Lynchings-1932

Maryland

3674

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

HAGERSTOWN, MD.
MAIL

MAR 19 1932

NO INDICTMENT IN SALISBURY LYNCHING CASE

Jury Fails To Find Bill—Not Sufficient Evidence Shown, Says Report

SALISBURY, Md., March 19 (AP)·Bringing to a close its four-day investigation of the lynching of Matthew Williams, negro, the Wicomico county grand jury reported "we find that there is absolutely no evidence that can remotely connect anyone with the instigation or perpetration of the murder."

No indictments were returned and the grand inquest further reported it found no evidence of communist organizations in Wicomico county.

Report To Court

The grand jury dismissed the murder of Elliott, the lynching of Williams and the reported Communist activities in two paragraphs of its formal report handed to Judges Joseph L. Bailey and Robert F. Duer, after Judge Bailey had instructed it to probe all three phases of the case.

"After a thorough and complete investigation of all the evidence, direct and indirect, presented to us by Attorney General William Preston Lane, Jr., and Assistant Attorney General G. C. A. Anderson, in reference to Communistic activities, we find that while such organizations do exist in other parts of the state, there is no evidence to justify the belief that such an organization exists in Wicomico county," the formal report said.

"After a thoroughly energetic and complete investigation of all the evidence, direct and indirect, rumors and every lead indicated by the evidence given by more than one hundred witnesses produced to us by the Attorney General, the Assistant Attorney General, the State's Attorney for Wicomico county and members of this grand jury, we find that there is absolutely no evidence that can remotely connect any one with instigation or perpetration of the murder of Matthew Williams."

The jury heard more than 120 witnesses. Of these, 102 were of the original list prepared by Attorney General Lane's office in conjunction with State's Attorney Levin C. Bailey, of Wicomico county, and the others were added through testimony presented.

The final witnesses, detectives Graydon L. Ware and Walter Martin of Baltimore city, who investigated conditions in Salisbury for several days following the lynching and three others were heard before noon today. The inquest body deliberated for nearly four hours before presenting its findings to the court.

In the final four hours, it also heard testimony of Ernest Toadvine, a farmer, and his wife, May, and indicted Lafayette Burris, negro, on charges of assault with intent to kill Mrs. Toadvine. The attack occurred in the Toadvine farm house shortly before noon today but Burris has not been apprehended.

The lynching of Williams was the fifteenth in Maryland since 1885, and the failure of the grand jury to indict today followed lack of such action in all the others. Six of the lynchings occurred on the Eastern Shore, eight on the Western and one in Baltimore.

Williams was hanged from a tree in the court house yard a few hours after he had shot Elliott to death in his lumber yard office where he formerly had been employed. After he had killed Elliott, he shot himself and a second wound was inflicted by the dead man's son as the negro fled.

Williams was taken to the Peninsula General Hospital, for treatment of his wounds, and at first was reported to have died. When word went forth that he was not dead, the mob formed and took him from the hospital. After he was hanged from a tree just outside the window of the circuit court room, his body was dragged through the streets, burned and left in the negro section of the city.

Examination of the witnesses was conducted by Attorney General Lane son and State's Attorney Bailey, the Assistant Attorney General Ander Attorney eGneral's office was instructed by Governor Ritchie to aid Bailey in his inquiry.

Seek Anti-Lynch Law In Maryland

4-2-32

BALTIMORE, Md., Mar. 30. — The failure of the Wicomico Grand Jury to make any indictment following an investigation of the lynching of Matthew Williams at Salisbury last December has caused many citizens in the state to press their demands for the enactment of a State anti-lynching law.

Meanwhile, the lodging of a charge of contempt of court against Louis Berger, secretary of the Baltimore branch of the International Labor Defense, may result because of his criticism of presiding Justice Bailey and the Grand Jury. Berger dispatched a telegram to Justice Bailey, characterizing the Grand Jury as the "lynch jury." The International Labor Defense Official stated last week that he would welcome the placing of a contempt charge against him, since it would offer him the opportunity to prove that the Grand Jury actually suppressed valuable evidence.

THE BALTIMORE *SUN*, on March ~~20~~, published an editorial regretting the decision of the Maryland grand jury which investigated the Salisbury lynching case, and said: "The State of Maryland [because of the grand jury's failure to act] stands helpless with the disgrace written across its name." In addition to this admirable statement, which fully upheld the *Sun's* traditions of liberalism, the editorial went on to demand a State-wide anti-lynching law, "under which the State authorities could move swiftly and surely to investigate and to punish such outbreaks, regardless of the action of county officials." An excellent series of protests against this lynching was published also by the Baltimore *Post*. The *Sun's* suggestion for a State law is an excellent one; such a law, before the even more desirable federal anti-lynching legislation is enacted, would greatly stimulate the lethargy of counties wherein a lynching grand jury refused to indict. We are glad to repeat the *Sun's* proposal for its own sake and as a rebuttal of our erroneous charge, in *The Nation* for April 6, that the *Sun* had made no comment on the Salisbury grand jury's report.

Nation

4-20-32

Vol. 134, No. 3485

New York, N.Y.

EVIDENCE IS LACKING, SO SAYS JURY

3-26-32

102 Witnesses Called, Many Of Them Eye-Witnesses

Norfolk, Va.

INVESTIGATE REDS

Council Of Churches Will Not Publish Its Report

SALISBURY, Md.—(CNS)—The Wicomico County grand jury, sitting here last Friday to investigate the lynching of Mathew Williams last December, reported "we find that there is absolutely no evidence that can remotely connect anyone with the instigation or perpetration of the murder."

The verdict came as result of a four-day investigation, during which the grand jury of Salisbury [illegible] heard 102 witnesses. Prior to the hearing of testimony the state Attorney General and his corp of assistants had spent four months investigating the lynching.

Eye Witnesses Quizzed

Several eyewitnesses to the lynching of Williams included Helen E. Fisher, superintendent of the Peninsula General Hospital, who saw the men who took Williams out of the hospital face to face, and James Handy, Negro orderly, who was at the hospital at the time. Other important witnesses from whom "no evidence of importance could be secured by the grand jury," included N. H. Holland, chief of the Salisbury police, and Alfred Truitt, publisher of a Salisbury newspaper.

Investigate Communism

While the white jurors found it impossible to ferret out the criminals, despite the welter of evidence, they did manage to find out facts concerning communistic activity in the county. Acting pursuant to the instructions of the presiding judge, they spent most of their time finding out what "outside organization" was responsible for turning the spotlight of publicity on the Eastern Shore lynching area. The grand jury found that no communistic organization existed in the county, but that such organizations did exist in the state.

I. L. D. Keeps Up Fight

Dissatisfied with the policy of Governor Ritchie and the failure of the grand jury to find the culprits, the International Labor Defense, at its headquarters in Baltimore and thru its secretary, Louis Berger, renewed its demand for an impartial jury to investigate not only the lynching, but the grand jury which investigated it, as well.

Another demand was that the governor "investigate the death of Jacob Conquest, Negro eyewitness to the lynching, and the disappearance of Rufus Jernigan, also a colored eyewitness." Jernigan was reported mysteriously absent from his home ever since it was known that he had seen the crime committed.

Many Witnesses Called

102 witnesses were called by the grand jury. Bernard Ades, I. L. D. attorney, who was nearly lynched for fighting Lees' case, states that none of those summoned are the lynchers. "Everybody in Salisbury knows, and the officials know, who the lynchers are," said Ades. "Yet for over three months the state has been trying to dodge the investigation by insisting it could get no information. 3,000 people, practically the whole town, saw the crime, yet the state can 'get no information.' Only the continued protest and activity of the I. L. D. forced the investigation and now, instead of investigating the crime, the jury is urged to investigate the I. L. D.

The Federal Council of Church in Christ is suppressing a report on the Salisbury lynching, prepared by Dr. Broadus Mitchell, of Johns Hopkins University. Samuel M. Cavert, general secretary of the council, has announced that due to fear of "misunderstanding," this document will not be included in the council's information service.

Lynchings-1932

Maryland

3675

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Maryland Lynch Jury Criticized by Press

Chicago Defender 1/9/32

SALISBURY, Md., Dec. 31.—W. Arthur Kennerly, foreman of the coroner's jury drawn to investigate the recent lynching of Mack Williams here, has announced his intention of calling news reporters and editors of the Baltimore Sun to testify following their denunciation of this lynch town and the statement of H. L. Mencken, famous iconoclast and associate editor of the Sun, that "any school boy in Salisbury knows who was in the mob.

"The names of those who dragged the victim from the hospital, blind and helpless, are known. The leaders are on public display at this moment, bathed in moron admiration."

Kennerly, who was former mayor of this provincial town, has stated that if the editors know the lynchers, he wants to have their testimony. Meanwhile, the Baltimore Sun, continued its criticism of the coroner's jury, for chasing will-o-wisps in Baltimore, while it left undisturbed a number of eyewitnesses in Salisbury. Intimations that the coroner's jury will seek to whitewash the whole affair were plainly made by the Sun.

Comment Editorially

Speaking editorially last week, the Baltimore paper stated in part:

"So Mr. Kennerly, foreman of the coroner's jury in the Salisbury lynching case, is talking about summoning members of the editorial staff of the Sun papers; and the state's attorney of Wicomico county is solemnly advising Mr. Kennerly that he may do so. We are not surprised.

"On the instant that it became known the Negro, Williams, had murdered Mr. Elliott there was danger of mob violence, of lynch law, in Salisbury. But the state's attorney kept an engagement 20 miles away. The chief of police placed only a nominal guard at the hospital to which the prisoner, who had been wounded, had been taken. The sheriff showed no zeal. The representative citizens of Salisbury attended strictly to their very private business.

"In due course, therefore, the mob formed, brushed aside law and the feeble and supine authority which is supposed to uphold law in Salisbury, took the man from the hospital, hanged him, burned him, mutilated him and some time in the night flung the thing that had been a human being into a woods outside the town. And not one voice has been raised in Salisbury in clear, unequivocal condemnation.

"Why be surprised, then, that the foreman of the coroner's jury in this lynching case turns away from the evidence that lies at his official doorstep and talks about summoning editors from Baltimore to tell him who did the lynching? It is entirely in character.

"Of course, if the foreman of the coroner's jury in Salisbury were actually trying to obtain evidence as to the lynchers he would devote his attention to the great crowd of people who were on the streets on the night of the lynching, who saw the lynchers go into the hospital, who saw them come out with the victim, who saw them drag him through the streets, who saw them hang him on the courthouse green, who saw them haul him through the streets to be burned, who saw the frightful bonfire on the edge of the Negro settlement.

"If the foreman were really trying to get the evidence he would go after those in that crowd and pry from them the names of the lynchers. And perhaps some time he will do that. But it will strike a new note in Salisbury. It is much more in character to talk about summoning far-away editors."

M.E. GROUP ASKS PUNISHMENT FOR SALISBURY MOB

Afro-American

Commends Ritchie and Local Salisbury Authorities.

1-9-32

PRESS PRAISED

AFRO Lauded at Meeting in D.C.

WASHINGTON.—At a regular session of district superintendents of the Washington Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church here, presided over by Bishop W. F. McDowell, white, that body went on record as condemning the recent lynchings in West Virginia and Maryland, in which three men were done to death.

This church group, representing portions of Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania, gave out the following summary of its record:

"We make record of our appreciation of the attitude of the public and the AFRO for the courageous attack on the crime of lynching which these papers have supported both in their news columns and by strong and righteous editorials."

Speaking of the lynchings in Maryland and West Virginia, the record stated:

"These lynchings are all the more deplorable because in both cases the suspects were in the custody of the law. Two of them were in jail, while Matthew Williams, a third victim, was in a hospital ward and so bandaged as not to be able to see. He was taken, hung to a tree and afterward burned in the presence of many of the citizens.

"We commend those officers of the law in the State of West Virginia who have put under arrest alleged members of the mob which put to death George Banks and Thomas Jackson, and we further commend the governor of Maryland, the attorney general, and the local authorities of Salisbury, Md., for what appears to be a determined effort to bring to justice such members of the lynchers' mob as can be apprehended.

"As superintendents, representing 40,000 law abiding members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, we deeply deplore the inhumanity of that element of people who engage in the barbarous practice of lynching and burning human beings—a practice unknown to any part of the civilized world except America.

"As representatives of the Christian church which stands for law and order, we urge those who are entrusted with the administration of civil government, to search for, find, and bring to justice those persons who are responsible for this outrageous assault on society and good government.

"In days like these when economic conditions create in nearly every community unusual social conditions which challenge leaders of the church and government to put in motion every constructive agency to keep up the morale of the people and keep down those influences which under the cover of "depression" strike at the very roots of our social order, it is to be deplored that any community should be disgraced and order and good government prostituted by a *mob of lynchers*. This, of course, augments the unrest which is already too apparent in nearly every community."

The record was signed by Robert F. Coates, George E. Curry, Fairfax F. King, Charles S. Briggs, and A. Hall Whitfield.

AN EDITORIAL

The *Afro-American* goes into mourning for the death of a Free State.

Afro-American 1/9/32

30 Days A. L.

On December 4, 1931, just one month ago, Salisbury, Maryland's lynch town, took a wounded man from the town hospital, dragged his body to the court house, strung it up to a tree in front of the main entrance, cut it down, soaked it in oil and burned it while some 2,000 white persons—men, women, children—cheered, shouted and approved.

Police, firemen, citizens recognized the ringleaders, but no one has been arrested, no one indicted, none punished.

Salisbury itself and its lynching shore supporters are greatly shocked and peeved that their "little demonstration" has created nation-wide interest.

Officially, it is the hope that agitation for punishment of the lynchers can be quieted so that the whole thing "will blow over."

Will known murderers be left to walk the streets of Maryland?

Will this state become a national by-word for lawlessness and mob spirit?

Will Governor Ritchie, campaigning for the Presidency, be heckled from the out of state audiences: "How about the fellow they lynched in Salisbury?"

Or will the properly constituted authorities in this state do their duty and put the mob leaders in jail?

Thirty days A.L. (after the lynching) and not a single arrest made.

Watching the Big Parade

By RALPH MATTHEWS

Afro-American

IN DEFENSE OF THE EASTERN SHORE

The more I visit the Eastern Shore and observe the actions and reactions of its simple-minded natives, the more convinced I am that we have been entirely too harsh in our dealings with them.

When I returned from the lynching scene of Matthew Williams at Salisbury, I was bitter. I expressed this bitterness in both rhyme and prose. I denounced the red-necks of the sector as heathens unfit to associate with swine. All this is changed now. I believe they [illegible] fit to associate with swine. I confess that, in this particular, I was [illegible]

Afro-American

The trial of George Davis at Elkton Tuesday convinced me that we were all wrong about the Eastern Shore. We should not condemn them so much for the lynching of one victim, but should commend them highly for their restraint and good breeding in not having lynched more.

A careful study of the colored residents shows them to be excellent lynch fodder. Their reticence and intolerable docility in the presence of even the poorest of white trash makes me wonder why lynching is not indulged in more by the farmers just for the sport of the thing.

1-16-32

The Elkton trial was interesting from many angles. With the whites up bright and early Tuesday morning, anxious to get a glimpse of, and their calloused paws on, Davis, who was accused of attempted rape, it was noticeable that not one dusky countenance appeared in the vi-

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NO ACTION YET FOR SHORE MOB

Afro

Although 31 days have elapsed since a mob at Salisbury lynched Matthews Williams, 23-year-old laborer, the investigation being conducted by the attorney general's office has progressed very little, it was learned from Willis R. Jones, deputy attorney general, in a statement to THE AFRO-AMERICAN this week.

The investigation which was started by Attorney General Lane, he stated, was later left in charge of States' Attorney Bailey, of Wicomico County.

Shortly after the lynching of Williams by a mob of two thousand, who took him from a cot in a hospital, hung him from a tree in the yard of the court house and then burned his body after dragging it three blocks, Governor Albert Ritchie, Attorney General Lane, and State's Attorney Bailey promised that the leaders of the mob, whose identity is known, would be arrested and prosecuted. No arrests have been made, however.

vicinity of the court house. When it was finally noised around about noon that the hoodlums would hardly start trouble with a batch of Baltimore patrolmen in command, they began to creep from their hiding places with a nervous sniffing sound like a mouse smelling for a cat.

Not one dared to enter the court house square, but lined up mutely along side of a garage at a safe distance from the scene of activities, and there they stood wild-eyed and sheepish as though a white man had but to say "shoo" and they would scurry to their hiding places.

When, in company with another reporter, I approached the doors of the court house, they seemed to marvel at my audacity. To see a colored person mount the sacred stairs seemed nothing short of madness.

The belief seemed prevalent that the mysteries of a court of justice are reserved only for whites and that the only occasion that the darker brother had to function within its mystic portals was on the wrong side of the bar. The idea of a colored juror, a colored bailiff, a colored attorney, is so remote from their untutored conception of things that the mention of such a possibility would only be greeted as fantastical imaginings.

To the average colored man on the Eastern Shore, there are but two types of people—white folks who make the world go round and colored folks who get behind and push. Their environment for the past one hundred or more years has been such that they can conceive of themselves only as farm hands, day laborers and oyster tongers and shuckers.

The teachers and ministers who go into the section as missionaries have done little to alleviate this situation. The very atmosphere of the place is so thoroughly saturated with the ideas of race inferiority that people who should know better find themselves stricken with this loathsome disease.

Besides malaria, strawberry itch and rabbit fever, a sojourn on the Eastern Shore is likely to result in a severe attack of uncletomitis that renders the victim practically spineless for the rest of his natural life.

It takes from six months to a year for the germs to get established in the system, but once there, no cure is known. Without this ailment, however, it is impossible to live on the Peninsular.

* * *

THEY ARE ALL AFRAID.

At the Davis trial I was especially impressed with the completeness with which the colored sojourners on the Shore have given themselves over to fright. Each witness gave as the only excuse for his actions the one explanation: "I was scared." The white folks seemed to accept this as perfectly logical.

A "scared" man is easily licked and as easily lynched. Small boys will have great sport tying a tin can to the tail of a slinking hound who runs and yelps every time a bunch of young hoodlums loom in sight, but in the case of a bulldog who dares to show his teeth, it is an entirely different story. It's the boys who take to their heels.

The Davis trial was interesting from another angle. The whole demeanor of the court seemed to emphasize the fact that it realized that the Shore was on trial before the rest of the state and the world. It wanted to justify itself before the eyes of civilization.

Assuming that the facts as presented on the stand were reasonably exact, in spite of the fact that the two persons directly concerned were not brought into open court, a fairly clear cut case of attempted rape was brought out, and surely enough to inflict the death penalty had the ire of the court been sufficiently aroused by the agitation of what the Shoremen called "them damned Reds." The colored witnesses, I regret to report, if they contributed anything, it was even more damaging.

The defense attempted to prove by them that the accused was under the influence of liquor, but the poor simple minded fellows did not get the idea at all. They thought that they were themselves being tried for violating the prohibition law and denied the liquor drinking issue most vehemently.

Personally I have little faith in the redemption of the Eastern Shore in this generation. What little faith I had in the power of our good Dr. T. H. Kiah, principal of Princess Anne Academy, to mold a semblance of manhood in the youth of the Shore, has been shaken. Even he has become an incurable sufferer with the inferiority disease.

There seems to be nothing left but to follow the advice of H. L. Mencken and allow the Eastern Shore populace to stew in its own juices.

INTERRACIAL BODY ASKS GOV. TO PUNISH MOB

Afro-American

1-16-32

The Interracial Commission of Maryland has urged Governor Albert T. Ritchie to see to it that members of the mob which lynched and burned Matthew Williams be brought to justice, it was announced by officers of the body this week.

The request that the Governor do everything in his power to have the leaders of the mob apprehended and tried was made in a letter dated December 16.

Shocked and Horrified

In the letter the Interracial Commission declares that it has been shocked and horrified by the lynching at Salisbury. It also points out that the apprehension of the leaders of the mob ought not be difficult, if, as reported, the officers of the law conversed with them and urged them to desist and let the law take its course.

Condemns Crime

The commission praised the Governor for the steps he had taken to bring the lynchers to justice and declared that in doing so it was offering no excuse for the crime attributed to Matthew Williams. All right thinking men of every race, the latter said, would condemn such a crime.

MENCKEN'S MISTAKE

[Philadelphia Record]

Chicago Defender 1-30-32

News from Salisbury, Md.: H. L. Mencken, famous American editor, will be subpoenaed to appear and tell what he knows, if anything, about the lynching of Matthew Williams, Negro murderer, on Dec. 4.

Inquest and investigation will be held. Mencken, writing in the Baltimore Evening Sun, declared that the names of the lynchers were known.

Salisbury will ask Mencken if he knows the names. But that is not Salisbury's main interest in Mencken. The town is anxious to make him explain his sensational printed attacks.

In his copyrighted comment on the lynching, Mencken said:

"The Salisbury lynching was the local morons' answer to the efforts of city men to make them behave with common decency. [illegible] wanted to do things in their own barbaric way, and what is more, they wanted to prove to the city slickers that they could. * * * The majority of the people are stupid enough, but they are probably less stupid than merely uninformed. * * * They are resigned to the devil and left in their dismal isolation. * * *

A slambang attack, full of burning adjectives, hate-evoking words, calculated to stir anger rather than to prevent further lynchings.

Mencken forgot that this was the first Maryland lynching in 20 years. Forgot that there has been great tension between the races because of the economic pinch. He admitted there were some decent citizens in Salisbury, but the tone of his tirade was abuse of a whole community, condemnation of an entire people.

This view is just as unsophisticated as some of the unsophistications which Mencken habitually castigates. His sudden faith in the super-intelligence of the big cities is amusing, after his years of comment on manifestations of the city spirit.

The proportion of good and bad is just about the same in all communities.

Lynchings - 1932

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

3676

Maryland.

3676

3676

HAGERSTOWN, MD.
HERALD

MAR 18 1932

GRAND JURY IS NEARING END OF LYNCHING PROBE

Only About Half a Dozen More Witnesses To Be Heard

Salisbury, Md., March 17, (AP).—Only a half dozen witnesses tonight remained to be heard as the Wicomico county grand jury brought to a close the third day of its investigation into the lynching here last December 4 of Matthews Williams, negro, for the murder of his white employer. State's Attorney Levin C. Bailey said that the action of the grand jury would be final and that there would be no session of the coroner's jury, to fix responsibility for the hanging.

The jury was informed during the day that one of two negroes who were in the ward with Williams in the Peninsula General Hospital when he was snatched from his bed and hustled across the street to his death had since died and the second could not be located.

The State's Attorney and Attorney General William Preston Lane, Jr., who is assisting him, at the request of Governor Ritchie, said that they believed that the investigation would be completed tomorrow and the jury complete its disposition of the case.

CUMBERLAND, MD.
TIMES

MAR 18 1932

EASTERN SHO' LYNCH PROBE IS CONCLUDED

Grandjury Expected To Render Its Decision Before Nightfall; 123 Witnesses Heard

THREE - SIDED STUDY

One Witness To Snatching Of Negro From Hospital Bed Has Died Since Crime

Salisbury, Md., Mar. 18 (AP)—Completing the gathering of testimony from the witnesses, the Wicomico county grand jury adjourned early this afternoon to reconvene later in the day to start its deliberation and to prepare a formal report.

Its report was expected before night.

Five witnesses were heard during the morning by the jury which is investigating the lynching of Matthew Williams, negro, here last December; his murder of his employer, Daniel J. Elliott, prominent lumberman, and reported Communistic activities previous to their deaths.

123 Witnesses Heard

Dr. Arthur D. Brown, Marion Hayman of Princess Anne and Vergil Harmon completed the parade of witnesses that have passed through the grand jury rooms since the probe started early in the week. A total of 123 witnesses of the 130 called were heard by the inquiring body.

Two Baltimore detectives, Graydon L. Ware and Walter Martin, were in the jury room for more than an hour this morning. Th were questioned separately by torney General G. C. A. Anderson. The two state prosecutors had entered the investigation to aid State's Attorney Levin C. Bailey of Wicomico county.

Ware and Martin had been sent to Salisbury shortly after the lynching of Williams and the murder of Elliott to investigate the two deaths and the circumstances leading up to them.

A three-sided study has been made—an investigation of the lynching, a probe of the negro's murder of Daniel J. Elliott his white employer and a query into reports of communistic activity on the Shore before the killing of Elliott.

The long list of witnesses included peace officers of the state, county and city, doctors and nurses, businessmen, fishermen and negroes living in the area. No inkling of their stories filtered from the tightly closed door of the inquisitorial body.

Two Witnesses Missing

Two witnesses did not testify. They were the only occupants in the negro ward of the Peninsula General Hospital the night members of the mob entered, snatched Williams from his bed and marched him to the green where he was hanged.

One was Jacob Thomas Conquest who has since died and the other Rufus Jernigan who has disappeared.

Two additional witnesses were summoned to the jury room yesterday, one a negro, Virgil Harmon of Salisbury, and other Marion Jayman of Princess Anne.

HAGERSTOWN, MD.
HERALD

MAR 19 1932

PROBE CLOSED BY JURY WITH NONE ACCUSED

"No Evidence to Connect Anyone With Murder," Report Says

MANY WITNESSES HEARD BY INQUEST

Finding No Evidence of Communist Activities in County

Salisbury, Md., March 18 (AP)—The Wicomico county grand jury today completed its investigation of the lynching of Matthew Williams without returning indictments in any phase of the case.

Through four entire days the grand jury heard a constant stream of witnesses, but in its own language failed to "remotely connect anyone with the instigation or perpetration of the murder of Matthew Williams."

The jury also declared that in reference to alleged Communistic activities reported to have preceded the murder of Daniel J. Elliott by Williams that "there is no evidence to justify the belief that such an organization exists in Wicomico county."

Report To Court

The grand jury dismissed the murder of Elliott, the lynching of Williams and the reported Communist activities in two paragraphs of its formal report handed to Judges Joseph L. Bailey and Robert F. Duer, after Judge Bailey had instructed it to probe all three phases of the case.

"After a thorough and complete investigation of all the evidence, direct and indirect, presented to us by Attorney General William Preston Lane, Jr., and Assistant Attorney General G. C. A. Anderson, in reference to Communistic activities, we find that while such organizations do exist in other parts of the state there is no evidence to justify the belief that such an organization exists in Wicomico county," the formal report said.

"After a thoroughly energetic and complete investigation of all the evidence, direct and indirect, rumors and every lead indicated by the evidence given by more than one hundred witnesses produced to us by the Attorney General, the Assistant Attorney General, the State's Attorney icomico county and members grand jury, we find that there olutely no evidence that can ely connect any one with insti on or perpetration of the murder fatthew Williams."

ie jury heard more than 120 witnesses. Of these, 102 were of the original list prepared by Attorney General Lane's office in conjunction with State's Attorney Levin C. Bailey, of Wicomico county, and the others were added through testimony presented.

The final witnesses, detectives Graydon L. Ware and Walter Martin of Baltimore city, who investigated conditions in Salisbury for several days following the lynching and three others were heard before noon today. The inquest body deliberated for nearly four hours before presenting its findings to the court.

In the final four hours, it also heard testimony of Ernest Toadvine, a farmer, and his wife, May, and indicted Lafayette Burris, negro, on charges of assault with intent to kill Mrs. Toadvine. The attack occurred in the Toadvine farm house shortly before noon today but Burris has not been apprehended.

The lynching of Williams was the fifteenth in Maryland since 1885, and the failure of the grand jury to indict today followed lack of such action in all the others. Six of the lynchings occurred on the Eastern Shore, eight on the Western and one in Baltimore.

Williams was hanged from a tree in the court house yard a few hours after he had shot Elliott to death in his lumber yard office where he formerly had been employed. After he had killed Elliott, he shot himself. and a second wound was inflicted by the dead man's son as the negro fled.

Williams was taken to the Peninsula General Hospital, for treatment of his wounds, and at first was reported to have died. When word went forth that he was not dead, the mob formed and took him from the hospital. After he was hanged from a tree just outside the window of the circuit court room, his body was dragged through the streets, burned and left in the negro section of the city.

Examination of the witnesses was conducted by Attorney General Lane, son and State's Attorney Bailey, the Assistant Attorney General Ander-Attorney eGneral's office was instructed by Governor Ritchie to aid Bailey in his inquiry.

CUMBERLAND, MD.
TIMES

MAR 19 1932

NO DEFENDANTS ARE NAMED IN LYNCHING CASE

Wicomico Grandjury Finds No Evidence To Remotely Convict Anyone With Crime

PROBED FOUR DAYS

Grand Inquest Further Reports It Found No Evidence of Communist Organization

Salisbury, Md., Mar. 19 (AP)—Bringing to a close its four-day investigation of the lynching of Matthew Williams, negro, the Wicomico county grand jury reported "we find that there is absolutely no evidence that can remotely connect anyone with the instigation or perpetration of the murder."

No indictments were returned and the grand inquest further reported it found no evidence of communist organizations in Wicomico county.

Brought together almost exactly 100 days after Williams had been dragged from a bed in the Peninsula General Hospital here, hustled across the street to the green in front of the courthouse and hanged in the presence of 2,000 persons, the grand jury heard the story from the lips of peace officers, doctors, nurses, business men and members of the negro section of Salisbury. One hundred and twenty-two witnesses were examined.

Killed His Employer

He was lynched for the murder earlier that day, December 4, of Daniel J. Elliott, his employer with whom he had argued over a question of wages. Elliott was a lumber dealer and was shot in his office, in the heart of the community.

In his instructions to the jury, Judge Joseph L. Bailey urged that inquiry be made not only into the lynching, but into events leading up to the shooting, with reference to activities of "outside organizations"

In the report made public late yesterday afternoon, Levin C. Bailey, state's attorney, the grand jury said:

"After a thorough and complete investigation of all the evidence, direct and indirect, presented to us by Attorney-General William Preston Lane, Jr., and Assistant Attorney-General G. C. A. Anderson in reference to communistic activities we find that while such organizations do exist in other parts of the state there is no evidence to justify

Continued From Page 1)

the belief that such an organization exists in Wicomico county.

"After a thoroughly energetic and complete investigation of all the evidence, direct and indirect, rumors and every lead indicated by the evidence given by more than 100 witnesses produced to us by the attorney-general, the state's attorney for Wicomico county and members of this grand jury, we find that there is absolutely no evidence that can remotely connect anyone with the instigation or perpetration of the murder of Matthew Williams."

Only Few Await Report

The actual taking of testimony was completed early in the day yesterday and a short recess taken, the jury reassembling later and arriving at its conclusions.

Few people were in the courtroom when the report was delivered to the bench. Judge Robert F. Duer thanked the jurors on behalf of the bench and the people of Wicomico county for their "prompt and energetic action during the session.

He then warned the members they still comprised the county's grand jury until their successors were named the fall and permitted them to go home.

Commissioners Exonerated

Salisbury, March 19—The officers of the Wicomico county treasurer and county commissioners were declared by the grand jury to be free of irregularity or dishonesty but the recommendation was made that rigid economy be practiced.

The findings of the jury were returned yesterday. Judge Joseph L. Funds, indicating $150,000 to $200,000 a year was wasted

The jurors said: "After a preliminary investigation into the conduct of the office of the county commissioners and the treasurer we do not consider there is any dishonesty in the levy of expenditures of public monies or paying of the same through the treasurer's office."

The county jail and courthouse were reported to be in god shape although the latter was declared to be in need of various modernizing improvements. The jail was described as being in very good condition but additional space was needed.

Woman's Assailant Indicted

Salisbury, Md., March 19—Indicted by the Wicomico county grand jury in less than five hours after Mrs. May Oadvine, farmer's wife said he had attacked her yesterday noon, LaFayete Burris, a 20-year-old negro, was sought today by Sheriff G. Murray Phillips.

The woman said the negro hit her over the head with an iron pipe and fled as she screamed. He entered the house a few minutes after her husband, Ernest, had left.

She was not seriously injured and was brought here and taken before the grand jury which had just concluded its investigation of the lynching of Matthew Williams and the events attendant upon it.

Burris, she said, had been employed by her husband. The jury indicted the negro for assault with intent to kill and assault and battery.

Officers said the man fled in the direction of Fruitland, four miles from here where he was known to have relatives.

The Burris home where the attack occurred is on the Snow Hill road, one mile from Salisbury.

CALL MORTICIAN, PHYSICIAN IN SHORE PROBE

Dr. A. D. Brown and Jim Stewart Summoned to Hearing.

FAMILY MEMBERS NOT NOTIFIED

Aunts and Others who Knew Man, Ignored.

Afro American

3/26/32

Staff Correspondence.

SALISBURY, Md.—Dr. Arthur D. Brown, prominent physician, and James F. Stewart, leading undertaker, were among the 13 colored witnesses called in the grand jury investsigation into the [illegible] of Matthew Williams, who was hanged and burned here December 4, which opened formally here, Tuesday.

Other witnesses of importance summoned were, Rufus Jernigan, of Snow Hill, Md., and Jacob Conquest, of Salisbury, both of whom were patients in the Peninsula General Hospital at the time that Williams was carried from his cot and thrown from a window into the waiting arms of the mob.

It is believed that they can identify some of the leaders. Dr. Brown is said to have been returning from a professional visit in his car and ran into the mob unexpectedly as they were burning the body. He is thought to have recognized a number of the lynchers.

Mr. Stewart retrieved the charred body shortly after the mob completed its work.

Other witnesses called were Marion Talley, Leander Morris, Howard Leonard, Merle Friend, Walter Dashiell, Ned Roberts, John Williams, William Purnell and Henry Purnell, of Wicomico County.

Family Ignored

The immediate members of the Williams family who might be able to throw light on the events leading up to the slaying of Daniel J. Elliott, white, employer of Williams, which precipitated the lynching, were not called, it was learned today.

Interviewed at her home by a reporter of the AFRO-AMERICAN, Mrs. Addie Black, the aunt of Williams, said she did not know that witnesses were to be called until she read it in the paper.

In answer to the question as to whether she had received any intimation of whether she would be called, she answered in the negative.

It was learned here that an aunt of Matthew Williams, Miss Minnie Handy, of Babylon, New York, had received notice that she would be summoned before the grand jury. It was also understood that Mrs. Olivia Simmons, of Philadelphia, sister of the dead man, would be called, but their names were not included in the official list.

The uncle of Williams, Matthew Hardy, could not be reached. It was understood that he has returned to his work at the city gas plant. It could not be learned whether he would be called before the grand jury or not.

Both the Handy and Black families live in comfortable homes in the Northwestern section of the town, off the main line.

I. L. D. Wires Ritchie

The International Labor Defense wired a protest to Governor Albert C. Ritchie, demanding the impeachment of Judge Baily and the empaneling of a new grand jury composed of both white and colored jurors:

The telegram read:

Governor Albert C. Ritchie,
Annapolis, Md.

Judge Bailey, in charging grand jury incites them against International Labor Defense as outside organization. We are an outside roganization only in sense that principles of justice and equality for which we stand are foreign to the Eastern Shore.

You promsied no suffering by unemployed here, but today two white men are trial for protesting the eviction of a bed-ridden Negro woman. Now Judge Bailey, representing Maryland Government, incites lynching against such militant workers.

The police murder of Ford workers echoes in Maryland. We demand new grand jury of white and Negro workers, the impeachment of Judge Bailey, and the right of workers to organize and stop evictions, lynchings and death to lynchers.

INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE.

SHORE LYNCH MOB STORMS WHITE HOTEL

Call

Kansas City Mo

4-1-32

BALTIMORE—Echoes of the Euel Lee case roared along the Eastern Shore this week when a mob sought to drag Godfrey Child, white, State's Attorney, who prosecuted Lee, from a hotel for his dismissal of kidnapping charges against Robert Allen, white, chief of police, who was also accused of framing the 60-year-old man.

Child was sought by a mob of 250 who stormed the Atlantic Hotel when angered by a magistrate's decision clearing Allen and George K. Jarvis, both white, accused of kidnapping Charles W. Brown, white, and chaining him to a tree.

Child was blamed for the dismissal when witnesses testified that in a telephone conversation between Allen and Jarvis, one of the accused is alleged to have said: "Don't worry, I have everything fixed with Child."

"Framed" Lee

Police Chief Allen is well known to Baltimoreans who visit the Maryland summer resort at Ocean City each summer as workers in the hotels and he is described by many as extremely prejudiced and rude to colored strangers on the shore.

He figured prominently in the trial of Euel Lee when it was brought out that the aged man was struck with a black-jack while riding in the car of the officer shortly after the crime had been committed. Open charges of inflicting the third degree upon Lee were hurled at the police chief at the Towson trial by Daniel Levinson, employed by the International Labor Defense to defend Lee.

Bernard Ades accused Chief Allen of planting most of the evidence taken from the home of Green K. Davis in Euel Lee's room. The chief was also accused of substituting a pair of trousers to match a coat that was found on Lee.

During the course of the trial, questioning about the third degree developed that the man was slugged with Allen's blackjack while in the latter's custody. He denied inflicting the blows.

Tear Gas

The prosecutor was saved this
week when State troopers, who
could not be summoned when a mob
liams, arrived on the scene and stav-
at Salisbury lynched Matthew Wil-
ed off the hoodlums when persuasion
had failed and tear gas had been
used. The automobile of Child's was
wrecked.

An urgent call for the fire department to come out and turn the hose on the mob earlier in the demonstration brought the reply that most of the mob.

A similar situation obtained when a Salisbury mob hanged Matthew Williams, when it was disclosed that the rope used in the orgy was furnished by the fire department.

Lynchings-1932

Maryland.

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

DEMAND THAT GOVERNOR ACT IN SALISBURY LYNCHING CASE

Courier

BALTIMORE, Md., Mar. 10—(CNS)—Demands for the immediate arrest and prosecution of the lynchers of Mathew Williams at Salisbury, Md., some months ago were contained in a telegram to Governor Albert Ritchie from members of the International Labor Defense, received last Tuesday. The telegram pointed out that more than two months have elapsed since the lynching during which time investigations by the State Attorney General have achieved no results. The Governor has been repeatedly criticized for his failure to take any drastic action in the case of the first lynching in Maryland for over 20 years.

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Maryland Probes Lynching of Negro

Constitution

3-16-32

SALISBURY, Md., March 15.—(AP) Investigation into the lynching of Matthew Williams, negro, here December 4, was started today by a grand jury. One hundred and two witnesses were summoned to testify.

The jurymen had before them a charge by Judge Joseph L. Bailey for a sweeping injuiry, not only into the lynching of the negro, who had murdered Daniel L. Elliott, prominent lumberman, but also into the activities of an "outside organization," preceding the murder. The judge did not name the organization to which he referred.

Atlanta, Ga.

Williams was hanged on the courthouse green by a mob which had dragged him from a hospital bed where he was recovering from bullet wounds received in his flight from the scene of the murder.

Louis Berger, of Baltimore, said the "outside organization" referred to by Judge Bailey was his organization, the International Labor Defense League. He telegraphed Judge Bailey criticizing the makeup of the grand jury which has no negro members.

GRAND JURY HEARS LYNCHING WITNESSES

Constitution

3-17-32

SALISBURY, Md., March 16.—(AP) The Wicomico county grand jury today heard 70 more witnesses in its inquiry into the lynching last September of Matthew Williams, after he had killed his employer, Daniel J. Elliott, lumberman. State's Attorney Bailey said he hoped to have the inquiry completed late tomorrow.

Atlanta, Ga.

The jury is investigating not only the lynching but the murder of Elliott and reports of communistic activity on the eastern shore in which it was alleged "forces were incited to revolt."

BALTIMORE, MD.
MORNING SUN

MAR 1 1932

LYNCHING ARRESTS SOUGHT

Labor Group Demands Ritchie Take Action In Salisbury Case

Pointing out that more than two months have elapsed since the lynching in Salisbury, Md., of Matthew Williams, Negro, members of the International Labor Defense last night sent a telegram to Governor Ritchie demanding that the Governor have the leaders of the mob arrested immediately and prosecuted.

BANNER
CAMBRIDGE, MD.

MAR 17 1932

LYNCHING PROBE IS NEARING THE END

The End Of The Investigation Of The Wicomico County Grand Jury, Appeared In Sight Today.

Salisbury, Md., Mar. 17. (AP)—The end of the investigation of Wicomico County Grand Jury of the December 4 lynching of Matthew Williams, negro, appeared in sight today as the last of 120 witnesses arrived at the courthouse to tell their story. The investigation has been in progress for three days and from the windows of the Grand Jury room the tree in the village green from which the negro was hanged is visible.

The investigation has been threefold. It has included, on court instructions, the murder of Daniel J. Elliott, lumberman, for whose death the negro was hanged; the actual lynching, and the report of Communist activity on the Eastern Shore prior to the slaying.

State's Attorney Bailey said today he expected the last of the testimony would be given to the jury by mid-afternoon and he hoped that the body would take its action before evening.

The original list of witnesses included 102 names but the nature of the testimony given resulted in the calling of 18 additional persons. The extra summons were issued yesetrday.

The county prosecutor, is being aided by Attorney General William Preston Lane, Jr., asked by Governor Ritchie to assist in the investigation of the lynching.

It was said by the officials that any person having testimony bearing on any of the three-bladed investigation of the crime would be given an opportunity to appear.

The jury was acquainted with a report that prior to the shooting of Elliott by Williams here had been Communist activity on the Shore and it had been alleged negroes were incited to "revolt."

CUMBERLAND, MD
NEWS

MAR 19 1932

JURY FAILS TO TAKE ACTION ON LYNCHING

No Evidence To Connect Anyone With Salisbury Mob Violence

120 WITNESSES GAVE TESTIMONY

Jurors Find No Communistic Organization Exists In County

SALISBURY, Md., Mar. 18 (AP)—The Wicomico county grand jury today completed its investigation of the lynching of Matthew Williams without returning indictment in any phase of the case.

Through four entire days the grand jury heard a constant stream of witnesses, but in its own language, failed to "remotely connect anyone with the instigation or perpetration of the murder of Matthew Williams".

The jury also declared that in reference to alleged Communist activities reported to have preceded the murder of Daniel J. Elliott by Williams that "there is no evidence to justify the belief that such an organization exists in Wicomico county."

The grand jury dismissed the murder of Elliott, the lynching of Williams and the reported Communist activities in two paragraphs of its formal report handed to Judges Joseph L. Bailey and Robert F. Duer, after Judge Bailey had instructed it to probe all these phases of the case.

Insufficient Evidence

"After a thorough and complete investigation of all the evidence, direct and indirect, presented to us by Attorney General William Preston Lane, Jr., and Assistant Attorney General G. C. A., Anderson, in reference to communistic activities, we find that while such organizations do exist in other parts of the state, there is no evidence to justify the belief that such an organization exists in Wicomico county," the formal report said.

After a thoroughly energetic and compete investigation of all the evidence, direct and indirect, rumors and every lead indicated by the evidence given by more than one hundred witnesses produced to us by the attorney general, the assistant attorney general, the state's attorney for Wicomico county and memgers of this grand jury, we find that there is absolutely no evidence that can remotely connect any one with the instigation or perpetration of the murder of Matthew W. Williams."

Heard 120 Winesses

The jury heard more than 120 witnesses. Of these, 102 were of the orignal list prepared by Attorney General Lane's office in conjunction with state's Attorney Levin C. Bailey of Wicomico county, and the others were added through testimony presented.

The final witnesses, Detectives Graydon L. Ware and Walter Martin, of Baltimore city, who investigated conditions in Salisbury for several days following the lynching and three others were heard before noon today. The inquest body deliberated for nearly four hours before presenting its findings to the court.

In the final four hours, it also heard testimony of Ernest Toadvine a farmer, and his wife May, and indicted Lafayette Burris, negro, on charges of assault with intent to kill Mrs. Toadvine. The attack occurred in the Toadvine farm house, shortly before noon today, but Burris has not been apprehended.

The lynching of Williams was the fifteenth in Maryland since 1885, and the failure of the grand jury to indict today followed lack of such action in all the others. Six of the lynchings occurred on the Eastern Shore, eight on the western and one in Baltimore.

Hanged To Tree, Then Burned

Williams was hanged from a tree in the courthouse yard a few hours after he had shot Elliott to death in his lumber yard office where he formerly had been employed. After he killed Elliott, he shot himself, and a second wound was inflicted

by the dead man's son as he fled.

Williams was taken to the Peninsula General Hospital, for treatment of his wounds, and at first was reported to have died. When word went forth that he was not dead, the mob formed and took him from the hospital. After he was hanged from a tree just outside the window of the circuit court room, his body was dragged through the streets, burned and left in the negro section of the city.

Examination of the witnesses was conducted by Attorney General Lane, Assistant Attorney General Anderson and State's Attorney Bailey. The attorney general's office was instructed by Governor Ritchie to aid Bailey in his inquiry.

After the jury had been drawn, Louis Berger, secretary of the International Labor Defense League attacked its make-up in a statement issue in Baltimore, which he said had been sent to Judge Bailey in the form of a telegram.

Judge Bailey had not received the missive today, four days after Berger said it had been sent.

Berger termed it a "lynch jury" in that it did not contain "negroes and poor white farmers." Judge Bailey said he would turn the telegram over to Chief Judge John R. Pattison if it was received. He did not say what further action would be taken by the bench.

Help for Salisbury

Afro American
3/5/32

"Troops should never be ordered on riot duty without an ample supply of ball ammunition. Blank cartridges should never be fired at a mob. If ball ammunition is expected from the first, moral effect is gained."

"Never fire over the heads of the rioters; the aim should be low."

"Never try to bluff a mob."

"Psychologically, at first mobs are cowards. They only gain courage as they find that those whose duty it is to suppress them are themselves cowards. A mob is not to be feared when it is first aroused."

"Mobs, as a rule, are made up of cowards, not necessarily physical cowards but moral cowards."

"Many of the people who urge the mobbers on, stay in the rear. There should be a rear or flank attack upon the mob to break it up."

"It is a good plan to have sharpshooters on top of high buildings or in high windows to pick off some of these cowards at the back of the mob and get them in retreat, then the rest will follow like sheep."

The above paragraphs were read in the U.S. Senate, February 11, by Senator Frazier (Rep., N.D.). They are, he said, excerpts from instructions issued to National Guards for the quelling of "race riots (whites versus blacks)," "strikes," and "'Communist activities."

This information about mobs should be interesting to sheriffs, police and jail wardens also, especially in the lynching belt.

Certainly a copy ought to be carried in the hat of every police official in Salisbury, Maryland's notorious village which staged last year's most brutal lynching and burning, while Salisbury police looked on.

PROBE ENDS IN WHITEWASH FOR SHO' LYNCHERS

"No Evidence to Establish Responsibility" is Report.

Afro-American
3/[illegible]/32

SALISBURY, Md.—After a week of deliberation in which 120 witnesses were called, a grand jury in Wicomico County, reported that it was unable to find evidence upon which to hold anyone responsible for the lynching of Matthew Williams, by a mob on December 4.

Although as Bernard Ades, attorney for the International Labor Defense, who was himself attacked by the mob, points out more than 3,000 people witnessed the lynching, no information could be obtained by the state after three and one half months of investigation.

"Everybody in Salisbury knows, and the officials know who the lynchers are," said Ades. "Yet for over three months the state has been trying to dodge the investigation by insisting it could get no information. Three thousand people, practically the whole town, saw the crime."

Also noticeable by his absence from this hand-picked list of witnesses, was Daniel J. Elliott, Jr., who by his own admission, shot Williams after Williams had quarreled with Elliott's father, the owner of the Salisbury Crate and Basket facory, over a wage-cut.

Because the investigation was conducted in secret it was impossible to learn what information the testimony of the colored witnesses called placed before the jury. Among the colored witnesses were: Dr. Arthur D. Brown and James Stewart, leading undertaker.

Other witnesses called were Marion Talley, Leander Morris, Howard Leonard, Merle Friend, Walter Dashiell, Ned Roberts, John Williams, William Purnell and Henry Purnell, of Wicomico County.

The immediate members of the Williams family who might have been able to throw light on the events leading up to the slaying of Daniel J. Elliott, white, employer of Williams, which precipitated the lynching, were not called.

To Call Berger

Louis Berger, secretary of the International Labor Defense, may be haled into court on a contempt charge for a telegram that he sent to Judge Bailey, describing the investigators as a "Lynch jury."

Judge Bailey is to go into conference with Judge John R. Patterson and Judge Robt. F. Duer, to determine what action is to be taken against the labor organizer.

The telegram sent by Berger, which is branded by the jurists as contempt of court, is as follows:

Judge Joseph L. Bailey,
Salisbury, Md.:

Prominent citizens lynched Matthew Williams on December 4. Judges and entire Shore aristocracy gave repeated encouragement to mobs.

These very same citizens now sit on the grand jury to investigate the lynchings. Your very remarks to grand jury about the International Labor Defense justifies our belief that the Shore mob leaders will be well covered up with your investigation of our organization instead.

The International Labor Defense regards the investigating body without Negroes and poor farmers on it as a lynch jury seeking to protect the murderers of Matthew Williams. We Demand a committee of Negro and white workers be permitted to investigate the lynchings and also if members of the grand jury were not part of the mob leaders who lynched Matthew Williams.

LOUIS BERGER.

Berger declared that he would be willing to go and welcome the opportunity to prove his charges in open court.

LYNCH REPORT IS TURNED DOWN BY CHURCH BODY

Federal Council Bows to Eastern Shore Mob Sentiment.

SECTION CALLED BACKWARD AREA

Afro-American

Dr. Broadus Mitchell's Report Caused Furore.

3/12/32

NEW YORK.—On account of what they call "misunderstandings" created by discussion of the recent report of Dr. Broadus Mitchell of Johns Hopkins University on the Salisbury lynching, that document will not be included in the official publications of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, its general secretary anounced this week.

In a communication to a white churchman at Salisbury, Samuel M. Cavert, general secretary of the council, said:

"As a result of counsel given us by friends of the Federal Council, we have not published Professor Mitchell's report in our weekly 'Information Service.' These friends have advised us that in view of misunderstandings created by discussion, the printing of the report in one of our own organs might occasion still further misunderstanding by making it erroneously appear that Professor Mitchell's findings have been adopted as expressing the official judgments of the Federal Council, although the full text of the report had originally been scheduled to appear in the Federal Council's publication during the week of February 1."

Bow to Sentiment

Many churchmen in Maryland are of the opinion that the decision of the Federal Council, of which Dr. George E. Haynes is one of the national secretaries, not to include the Mitchell document in its official bulletins, is a direct bow to lynch sentiment on the Eastern Shore.

They point out that it is common knowledge that hundreds of whites witnessed the lynching in which Williams was taken from a hospital where he lay helpless, strung to a tree and then his body dragged about the streets of the city and later burned. Dr. Mitchell spent several days in the lynch area and it was his report that the sentiment of the whites of the community condoned the mob action.

His statement that he found the Eastern Shore a backward section of the state, brought a flood of criticism from that section.

CUMBERLAND, MD.
NEWS
MAR 15 1932

SALISBURY JURY BEGINS PROBE OF LYNCHING TODAY

102 Witnesses Summoned to Testify in Regard to Mob Violence Last December.

COMMUNISTS BLAMED IN JUDGE'S CHARGE

Asks Full Inquiry Into Activities of "Outside Organization".

SALISBURY, Md., March 14, (AP) — A sweeping inquiry of all outside influences and contributing events was asked today by Judge Joseph L. Bailey in his charge to the Wicomico county grand jury shortly after it assembled to begin an investigation into the lynching of Matthew Williams, negro.

Not only did the jurist ask for a probe into the lynching of the negro who had shot and killed Daniel J. Elliott, prominent lumberman, but also he charged the jury to go into the events which preceded the hanging and the activities of an "outside organization" on the Eastern Shore.

102 Witnesses Summoned

The investigation by the grand jury will start tomorrow with the summoning of the first of 102 witnesses called by state's Attorney Levin C. Bailey, to testify.

City, county and state police, prominent residents of Wicomico, Worchester and Somerset counties, physicians, nurses and attaches at the Peninsula General Hospital are on the list of witness.

Attorney General William Preston Lane, Jr., will come here tomorrow to assist the state's attorney in presenting the evidence to the grand jury. They also will be assisted by Deputy Attorney General Anderson who with detectives from Baltimore have conducted a quiet investigation for several weeks during which they made stenographic reports of statements made by scores of persons who were questioned.

In his charge to the jury, Judge Bailey did not say the "outside organization" was the International Labor Defense league but remarks were so pointed that his designation of the communistic organization was not necessary.

Blames Communists

Frequently during his discourse, the jurist referred to "outside interference" in court procedure and "false accusations" made against officials and residents of the Eastern Shore preceding the Elliott murder and lynching. He tacitly laid the blame for the murder and the subsequent lynching on the activities of Communist organizations throughout the Eastern Shore.

The jurist referred to the International Labor Defense League without naming it in connection with "another case" on the Eastern Shore. He meant by "another case" was the slaying of Green K. Davis and his family by Euel Lee, a negro, who since has been convicted of one of the slayings and sentenced to death. The conviction has been appealed.

Williams, an employe of Elliott, went into the office of the lumberman on December 4 while the latter was talking over the telephone. The negro fired his pistol into the employer's body and tried to flee.

Elliott's son saw Williams running away from the scene of the crime and fired at him. One of the bullets hit the negro who with his own gun inflicted a less serious wound on himself.

Williams was taken to the Peninsula General Hospital where a mob of more than 2,000 gathered that night. Police authorities stopped the mob at the main entrance but six of the mobsmen entered a side door, dragged the negro from his bed and took him to the court house where they hanged him to a tree.

Lynchings-1932

Ohio

3678

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Wins Mob Case Despite Supreme Court Ruling

1-30-32

CLEVELAND, O., Jan. 28—In one of the hardest fought cases in Cleveland under the Ohio mob law statute, Councilman Clayborne E. George and Charles W. White (in the case of William L. Thomas versus the County Commissioners) won an absolute verdict, despite a tricky Supreme Court ruling.

Thomas, a mailman and superintendent of Cory M. E. Sunday school, was attacked by a gang of hoodlums at the corner of Euclid and East 100th street the latter part of June. He at once instituted suit against the county commissioners for damages.

In the case of Lexor versus County Commissioners, recently decided in the Ohio State Supreme Court, the following decision was handed down: "Under the mob violence law, no recovery of damages could be made unless it was definitely proved that the mob exercised correctional powers" over someone. And that $500 should be paid for minor injuries, $1,000 for a major injury and $5,000 for death or a total inability to make a living from manual labor.

Attorneys George and White argued that the decision of the Supreme Court was "in error," with th result that Judge McMahan said i handing down his decree that, "Ha the Supreme Court of the State o Ohio had before it in the Lexor cas the facts which this court has befor it in the Thomas case, the famou Lexor decision could not have bee reached. Mr. Thomas, the plaintiff is entitled to more damages than th law allows, for he has been shown t be a law abiding citizen; employe in a gainful occupation, with malice toward none, and I congratulate his attorneys for their sc tific manner of handling this case d their fight despite the Supreme C rt decision."

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7 PERSONS CHARGED WITH NEGRO'S DEATH

IRONTON, Ohio, June 12.—(AP)—Seven men today faced second-degree murder charges arising from the death of Luke Murray, 24-year-old negro, of Atlanta, Ga. 6-13-32

The charges were filed after Murray's body, badly decomposed, was found in the Ohio river near South Point. Those named were Lawrence L. Massie, Taylor Napier, Theodore Johnson, Wilford Massie, Willard Massie, Clyd Elkins and Garland Massie, all of South Point.

While Sheriff E. W. Bennett quoted the men as saying the negro drowned after leaping from a rowboat, Coroner J. S. King withheld a formal verdict as to the cause of death pending investigation.

TWELVE ARE HELD FOR MOB MURDER

Telegraph

6-12-32

Ohio Men Accused of Taking Atlanta Negro From Jail and Throwing Him in River

Macon, Ga.

IRONTON, Ohio, June 11. (AP)—Twelve men were in South Point, Ohio, jail Saturday night, held without bond, and facing possible charges of murder, in connection with the finding of the body of Luke Murray, 35, Atlanta, Ga., Negro, in the Ohio river Saturday.

Murray was taken from the South Point jail Tuesday night by about 25 men after he had been incarcerated for threatening two white men with a knife.

Prosecutor Lee C. Andrews said he may file murder charges against all 12 men. All deny knowledge of kidnaping Murray from the South Point jail.

TOLEDO, O.
NEWS BEE
JUN 1 3 1932

SEVEN FACE MURDER CHARGE IN LYNCHING

Two Free on Bond; Others in Jail in Ohio Killing

IRONTON, O., June 13.—Seven men, residents of South Point, were under murder charges today in the death of Luke Murray, 24, Atlanta, Ga., colored man, taken from the South Point jail last week and whose body was found Friday night in the Ohio river.

Of the seven, Willard Massie and his son, Lawrence, were at Liberty under bond. The others, held in jail here, are Taylor Napier, Theodore Johnson, Garland Massie, Milford Massie and Clyde Elkins.

COLUMBUS, O.
CITIZEN
JUN 1 1 1932

LYNCHING IS PROBED

Negro Believed Killed After Taken From Ohio Jail.

By Citizen State Wire.

IRONTON, O., June 11.—A supposed lynching of a Negro chauffeur, a prisoner in the village jail at South Point, was revealed today with the finding of his body in the river.

The victim, Luke Marion, 35, of Atlanta, was abducted from the jail Tuesday, but authorities believed he had been merely told to "get out" and paid little attention to the case.

However, when his body was found yesterday an inquiry started. The body bore marks of a severe beating, but it was undecided if he was dead before being thrown in the river.

Sheriff E. W. Bennet of Lawrence county arrested four white men at South Point today as suspects.

Marion and Ben Hall, white, were jailed Tuesday after a fight in which Marion was said to have drawn a knife on Hall.

Hall did not leave the jail after the door was broken down by the men who seized the Negro prisoner, officers said. Hall was ordered held as a material witness in the investigation of Marion's death.

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4 White Men Arrested In Ohio for Killing Negro Prisoner

6-14-32

IRONTON, Ohio — Four white men were arrested for questioning here Saturday, June 11, after police found the body of Luke Marion, 35 year old Atlanta Negro, in the Ohio River, the victim of a mob which took him from the South Point, Ohio, jail Tuesday night where he was under arrest. The body was badly battered.

Lawrence County officials said they expected to arrest 12 other white men for investigation in the case, as part of a mob which battered down the jail door on Tuesday night.

Marion was arrested after he was alleged to have threatened Ben Hall and another white man with a knife during an argument on a downtown street.

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6 Held to Grand Jury In Lynching of Negro

Constitution

Atlanta, Ga.

IRONTON, Ohio, June 24—(AP)—Six white men, charged with first degree murder in the alleged lynching of an Atlanta, Ga,. negro at South Point, Ohio, today were held to the Lawrence county grand jury by Justice of the Peace P. A. Burke. They pleaded not guilty. 6-25-32

They were: Lawrence L. Massie, 19; Taylor Napier, 24; Theodore Johnson, 29; Clyde Elkins, 20; Milford Massie, 20, and Garland Massie, 24.

The men were arrested in connection with the taking of Luke Murray, 24, from the South Point jail on the night of June 7 after he had threatened two white men with a knife. Murray's body later was found floating in the Ohio river.

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4 PLEAD NOT GUILTY IN DEATH OF NEGRO

IRONTON, Ohio, June 23—(AP)—Four men pleaded not guilty today to first-degree murder charges arising from the death of Luke Murray, 24, Atlanta (Ga.) negro, whose body was found in the Ohio river June 10 after he was taken from the South Point (Ohio) jail. 6-24-32

The defendants are Lawrence L. Massie, 19; Taylor Napier, 24; Theodore Johnson, 29, and Clyde Elkins, 20. Three others are held.

They admitted taking the negro from jail, but said he fell from a rowboat in which they were transporting him to the West Virginia shore.

POMEROY, O.
TRIBUNE
JUN 1 3 1932

Coroner Probes Cause Of Death

Of Southern Negro as Seven are Held on Charge of Lynching

Ironton, O., June 13—INS—With seven men in jail charged with second degree murder in the death of Luke Murray, 24-year-old Atlanta, Ga., negro, Coroner J. S. King today attempted to determine whether the man drowned or was beaten to death.

Formal charges were filed against seven South Point, O., men by Sheriff E. W. Bennett after the men allegedly admitted that they spirited Murray away from jail, hurried him toward the West Virginia side of the Ohio river, and commanded him to leave the state.

The crowd was enraged against Murray because he had threatened two white men with a knife in a fight at South Point, it was said. The coroner's formal verdict was expected to be made today or tomorrow .

The men arrested and charged with second degree murder were: Lawrence L. Massie, Taylor Napier, Theodore Johnson, Milford Massie, Willard Massie, Clyde Elkins and Garland Massie. all of South Point.

Youth Held In Lynching Sent To Reform School

Advertiser

6-28-32

IRONTON, OHIO, June 27.—(AP)—Louis McKee, 16, accused with six men alleged to have taken Luke Murray, 24, Atlanta negro chauffeur from the South-point jail, was found guilty of delinquency by Probate Judge Helen Clarke today and sentenced to an indeterminate term in an industrial school.

Murray's body was recovered from the Ohio River June 10. The State charges the men killed the negro.

Murray was jailed following a fight with a white man.

Six Whites Indicted In Death of Negro

Constitution

7-2-32

IRONTON, Ohio, July 1.—(AP)—Six white men were indicted for second-degree murder by the Lawrence county grand jury today in the death of Luke Murray, Atlanta negro, whose body was found June 13 in the Ohio river.

Those indicted, all of South Point, Ohio, are Taylor Napier, 24; Milford Massie, 20; Clyde Elkins, 20; Lawrence L. Massie, 19; Garland Massie, 24, and Theodore Johnson, 29.

Against a state charge that they abducted Murray from the South Point jail, beat him to death and threw the body into the river, the accused countered that they intended only to deport the negro, but that he jumped from their boat into the river and was drowned.

The negro had been jailed for threatening two white men with a knife.

FOUR ADMIT TAKING MAN FROM PRISON

Call

7-1-32

Kansas City Mo.

IRONTON, O.—Six white men have been arrested and held to the Lawrence county grand jury under charges of first degree murder in connection with the lynching of Luke Murray, Georgia chauffeur, whose body was found floating in the Ohio river near South Point.

Murray, who aroused the ire of the whites because of his popularity with his employer, was drawn into an argument and fight. He was arrested and lodged in jail. His body was found the next day.

The six under arrest are Lawrence Massie, 19; Taylor Napier, 24; Theodore Johnson, 29; Claude Elkins, 20; Milford Massie, 20 and Garland Massie, 22. The seventh member of the mob is Louis McKee, 16, who because of his age, will be taken before the Probate court.

According to the police, four of the men have admitted taking Murray from the jail with the thought of escorting him to the state line because his employer allowed him to drive both wife and daughter about the town with no white man in the car. The four who admit they kidnapped Murray from the jail said the chauffeur's death resulted from his falling overboard.

According to the findings of the N.A.A.C.P.'s special investigator it was shown that: the autopsy by two white physicians showed that the mob victim was not drowned as at first alleged, but that his neck had been broken. South Point feeling shows that a local official gave assistance to the lynchers.

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12 FACE MURDER CHARGE AS NEGRO IS LYNCHED

Chicago Tribune

6/12/32

Ironton, O., June 11.—(AP)—Twelve men were in South Point, O., jail tonight held without bond, and facing possible charges of murder in connection with the finding of the body of Luke Murray, 35, Atlanta, Ga., Negro, in the Ohio river today.

Murray was taken from the South Point jail Tuesday night by about 25 men after he had been incarcerated for threatening two white men with a knife.

Prosecutor Lee C. Andrews said he may file murder charges tonight against all 12 men. All deny guilt.

Those held are Theodore Johnson, Taylor Napier, Williard Massie, former constable, and his two sons, Garland and Milford; Ray Robinson, Ben and James Hall, Ralph and Lewis McKee, Clyde Elkins and William Johnson.

One Conviction Is Gained In Negro Lynching

East Tennessee News

IRONTON, Ohio.—A youth, one of the six accused of taking Luke Murray, colored, from the South Point jail, near here the night of June 7, and lynching him, was sentenced on a charge of delinquency, to an indeterminate term (one to ten years) The youth was Louie McKee, 16. Murray's badly battered body was recovered from the Ohio river June 10. 7/7/32

First degree murder charges have been filed against the six men whom the State charges killed Murray and threw his body into the river. Murray had been jailed following an altercation with a white man in which he is alleged to have threatened the man with a pen-knife.

CLEVELAND, O.
PLAIN DEALER
JUL 2 1932

Indict 6 for Ohio 'Lynching' Murder

IRONTON, O., July 1.—(AP)—Six white men were indicted for murder in the second degree by the Lawrence County grand jury today in the death of Luke Murray, Atlanta (Ga.) Negro, whose body was found June 13 in the Ohio River.

Those indicted, all of South Point, southeast of here, are: Taylor Napier, 24; Milford Massie, 20; Clyde Elkins, 20; Lawrence L. Massie, 19; Garland Massie, 24, and Theodore Johnson, 29.

A seventh alleged member of the band, Louis McKee, 17, recently was sentenced to an indeterminate term in the Industrial School at Lancaster.

Answering a state charge that they abducted Murray from the South Point jail, beat him to death and threw the body into the river, the accused countered that they intended only to deport the Negro, but that he jumped from their boat into the river and was drowned.

Murray, who went to South Point as a chauffeur for Howard Davidson, there to settle an estate, had been jailed for threatening two white men with a knife.

OLUMBUS, O.
DISPATCH
JUL 2 1932

Six Indicted in Alleged Ohio Negro Lynching

IRONTON, OHIO, JULY 2.—(Special).—Six South Point, Ohio, residents were indicted for second degree murder following a two-day session of a special Lawrence county grand jury, called for the investigation the alleged lynching of Luke Murray, 24, Negro chauffeur, on the night of June 7.

Those indicted were Taylor Napier, 24; Theodore Johnson, 29: Garland Massie, 24; Milford Massie, 20; Clyde Elkins, 20, and Lawrence L. Massie, 19.

The youths are alleged to have been ringleaders of a mob which forced an entrance into the jail and required Murray to accompany them to the Ohio river. While attempting to row him to the other side of the river, according to the defendants' testimony, Murray rolled from the boat and disappeared in the river. His body was found three days later.

Lynchers Will Go On Trial In Ohio July 22

Journal

Atlanta Ga.

Ironton, O., July 15.—Five alleged members of a mob which lynched Luke Murray, 24, chauffeur, near here last month are to go on trial Friday, July 22 on charges of second degree murder. A special grand jury changed the indictment from first to second degree murder. All the man pleaded not guilty when arraigned and were held on bond of $5,000 each. The sixth person held, Lawrence L. Massie, was tried by the juvenile court on a charge of abduction and kidnapping, was found guilty and sentenced to the reformatory for an indefinite term.

7-20-32

The lynching of Murray might never have been known had not the Portsmouth, O. branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored Peple investigated the case. Murray had been listed as dead "from drowning.' Actually, his neck was broken. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People found that he had been lynched because he was "too popular with his employer" and took the mistress of the house and her daughter out riding in the car at the instruction of his employer.

The N. A. A. C. P has asked Governor White to appoint a special prosecutor if such action is within his power.

SIX MEN FREED

Jury Acquits Group Accused of Lynching Negro

Telegraph

Macon Ga

7/30/32

IRONTON, Ohio, July 29 (AP)—Six white men accused of lynching Luke Murray, Atlanta, Ga., Negro, chauffeur, were acquitted of second degree murder charges by a jury of white men in common pleas court here Friday afternoon.

The six defendants, Taylor Napier, Theodore Johnson, Clyde Elkins and Milford, Garland and Lawrence Massie—were accused of forcibly removing Murray from the South Point Ohio, jail and beating him to death. The state claimed a body taken from the Ohio river was that of Murray.

SIX MEN ACQUITTED OF LYNCHING NEGRO

Constitution

IRONTON, Ohio, July 29.—(AP)—Six white men accused of lynching Luke Murray, Atlanta, Ga., negro chauffeur, were acquitted of second-degree murder charges by a jury of white men in common pleas court here this afternoon. 7-30-32

The six defendants, Taylor Napier, Theodore Johnson, Clyde Elkins and Milford, Garland and Lawrence Massie, were accused of forcibly removing Murray from the South Point, Ohio, jail and beating him to death. The state claimed a body taken from the Ohio river was that of Murray.

FATE OF 6 WHITE MEN IS IN HANDS OF JURY

Constitution

Group Charged With Lynching Atlanta Negro Chauffeur

7-29-32

IRONTON, Ohio, July 28.—(AP)—A jury tonight began deliberations on second-degree murder charges against six white men accused of lynching Luke Murray, Atlanta negro.

Five verdicts are possible: Second-degree murder, manslaughter, assault and battery, assault and acquittal.

The jury is composed of white men.

Murray was taken from a jail and killed after his arrest in a difficulty with a white man.

Defense attorneys admitted the white men took Murray, a chauffeur, from the jail after his arrest on suspicion of threatening two white men with a knife but claimed the negro jumped to his death from a row boat. They also attacked the state's identification of the body.

Prosecutor Lee D. Andrews said the men banded together for mob violence and took Murray from the South Point (Ohio) jail. The body identified as his was found in the Ohio river.

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment of Lynchers..

Ohio

3679

CLEVELAND, O.
PLAIN DEALER

JUL 30 1932

Six Are Acquitted by White Jury of 'Lynching' in Ohio

IRONTON, O., July 29.—(AP)—Acquitted of charges of second degree murder in the death of Luke Murray, a young Negro chauffeur of Atlanta, Ga., six white men were released from custody here today.

A jury of twelve white men, which received the case late yesterday, deliberated eight hours and returned to the court room once for additional instructions of the court before returning the verdict.

The six, Taylor Napier, Theodore Johnson, Clyde Elkins and Milford, Garland and Lawrence Massie, were accused of abducting Murray from the South Point (O.) Jail, beating him to death and throwing the body into the Ohio River.

The Negro had been jailed for threatening a white man with a knife.

The defendants admitted they forcibly removed Murray from the jail but denied they lynched him. They said the Negro jumped from a rowboat in which they were taking him across the river.

Fearing a demonstration from the court room crowded with both Negroes and whites, Common Pleas Judge Dan C. Jones ordered silence until after the room was cleared.

Four members of the jury, it was reported, held out for a manslaughter verdict until the fifth ballot, when agreement was reached.

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6 OHIO LYNCHERS ARE ALLOWED TO GO FREE BY JURY

Prisoner They Forced From Jail Is Found Drowned

Journal and Guide

8/6/32

IRONTON, Ohio—Six white men who forcibly removed a Negro, Luke Murray, from the South Point jail here last June were acquitted last Friday following trial for second degree murder growing out of the death of Murray whose body was found in the Ohio River three days after the men had taken him from the law.

Incidentally, three of the accused men were surnamed Massie similar to the naval man involved in the Hawaiian lynching case. They are Milford, Garland and Lawrence Massie; the other men are Taylor Napier, Theodore Johnson and Clyde Elkins.

The State charge the six men took Murray from the South Point Ohio, jail and after severely beating or killing him, threw his body into the Ohio River. The body was found with the neck broken.

Cause of Arrest

Murray had been jailed for allegedly threatening two white men with a knife. He had been in South Point only a few days and was en route North with his employer's family. First it was stated that Murray threatened a white woman with a knife.

The state tried to prove that the men had killed Murray and thrown him in the river in order to get rid of the evidence, but the men, although admitting that they battered the doors of the jail down, declared that their only intention was to deport him out of the county. They explained further that "Murray jumped from a boat, while he was being taken across the Ohio River into Kentucky."

All the men pleaded not guilty when arraigned and were held on bond of $5,000 each. The sixth peson held, Lawrence L. Massie, was tried by the juvenile court on a charge of abduction and kidnaping, was found guilty and sentenced to the reformatory for an indefinite term.

N. A. A. C. P. Investigates

The lynching of Murray might never have been known had not the Portsmouth, Ohio branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People investigated the case. Murray had been listed as dead "from drowning."

Actually, his neck was broken. It was also found that he had been lynched because he was "too popular with his employer" and took the mistress of the house and her daughter out riding in the car at the instruction of his employer, a practice which irked local whites.

The trial began July 22, and lasted seven days.

SORDID STORY OF IRONTON LYNCH ORGY IS RE-TOLD

Acquittal of White Defendants In Ohio Lynching Prompts Filing of New Charges.

By ATTY. THEODORE M. BERRY
Official N. A. A. C. P. Observer

Courier

IRONTON, O., Aug. 4—The biggest and most sensational case in the history of Lawrence County, Ohio, came to a close Friday, July 29, after six days of legal fencing when a jury of 12 white men returned a verdict of not guilty and acquitted six white men charged with the murder of a Negro.

Pittsburgh Pa.

8/6/32

The background of facts and interplay of social and racial attitudes that prefaced this trial combine to make an interesting story. Luke Murray, a young Negro about 20 years of age, high school graduate and member of a respectable family of Macon, Ga., was chaufeur and butler for Howard Davidson of Atlanta. Early in 1932 the Davidsons came to South Point, O., to look after certain farming interests, and brought Muraay with them. One of the members of the family was Nancy Adams, age 17, a niece of the Dabidsons. Murray lived in the main house on the Davidson farm, dressed well at all times, frequently was seen driving Miss Adams or Mrs. Davidson, and in Mr. Davidson's absence was placed in charge of the house and grounds.

South Point is a village on the Ohio river surrounded by a rich farming district. The inhabitants—about 500—are of the poor class, made up largely of hired hands and their families from the neighboring farms. No Negroes live there. It seems that Murray's presence in the vicinity, his position in the Davidson household, and his manner and seeming familiar conduct with the family, especially the niece, aroused the enmity of the village men. Whether or not a preconcerted plan was effected is not known, but Murray became engaged in a quarrel with a hired hand on the Davidson farm in the presence of one of the defendants, and was reported to have drawn knife. Later both men were arrested by the village marshal, tried before the mayor, fined $5 and costs, and placed in jail until they were paid out.

Word had spread rapidly, a crowd gathered; the marshal removed Murray from a cell to an open vestibule, and went home to dinner, leaving the jail unguarded, and announced that he would be gone about two hours. Shortly afterward several men seized a crosstie, broke in the door and removed Murray—this was June 7. No report of this jail-break was made to any county officials, and Murray was not seen again. On June 10 a badly decomposed body was found floating in the river, and was later ideitified as Murray.

The body was buried after a coroner's verdict of drowning, and an investigation was begun. The Lincoln Club, an organization of Negro residents of Lawrence county, headed by Dr. L. M. Weaver, suspecting foul play, demanded that the body be exhumed for an autopsy. This revealed that Murray had not drowned, but had died of a broken neck, and was aapparently thrown in the water. Eventually six men, between 19 and 29 years of age, confessed to forcing the jail and removing Muurray, but insisted that he jumped from their boat when they were taking him out of the State, and disappeared in the water. Subsequently they were indicted by the grand jury for second degree murder.

The Lincoln Cluub sent a delegation to Columbus urging Governor White to request the attorney general to appoint a representative to prosecute this case. Notwithstanding the authority given by State law, the governor declined, electing to "leave it to local aauthorities." (In view of the strong support given Governor White by Lawrence county last election and his ambitions for re-election, this evasion savored strongly of political strategy.) The Lincoln Club then petitioned the Lawrence County court to appoint a special assistant to aid in the prosecution, which the court agreed to do, but would not pay a fee. Attorney Everett L. Riley, white, of Ironton accepted the appointment and agreed to serve without compensation.

The case opened July 22—a day and a half was spent in selecting a jury; 84 prospective jurors were called; the State and defense exercised 32 of their combined 48 peremptory challenges. (This excessive use of peremptory challenges was more a "jockeying" for political advantage than an effort to get a fair and impartial jury.) Trial began July 25; the State colled 27 witnesses and the defense 14; the case went to the jury about 5:30 p. m. on July 28, and the verdict was returned at 3:30 p. m. July 29—a total of 22 hours.

The defense contended (1) that the body found was not that of Luke Murray; (2) that the defendants had not committed the crime as charged in the indicement, i. e., murde rin the second degree. These two points the State was forced to prove beyond a reasonable doubt before convicting the defendants.

From the outset the prosecutor appeared to be weak in his preparation of the case, shallow and uncertain in the examination of witnesses, and lacking in zeal to obtain a conviction. One gathered that he was performing an unwanted task, and his expression before opening of the trial, "I wish this thing was all over," indicated his attitude. The assistant, on the other hand, performed his part well. The judge was fair and impartial in his rulings except for the fact that he failed to have the jury sequestered at any time during the trial, except during consideration of the verdict. Counsel for the defense made no effort to openly inject racial prejudice into the case, although evidence was offered to attack Muray's character and reputation, and attach ulterior meaning of his conduct with women members of the family. This was successfully rebutted.

The verdict as returned can be largely attributed to the failure of the prosecution to prove its case conclusively, and not to prejudice on the part of the jurors. Yet it was quite possible for jurors to have been influenced, since they were allowed to go home each night (without any objection from the prosecution). A political reason seemed to exxist which may have influenced the attitude of the prosecutor. Lawrence county is split into two major Republican factions, one of which is headed by Lee Andrews, the prosecuting attorney. South Point has consistently provided strong support for his faction, and it is highly probable that he did not wish to disaffect this vote by convicting six native sons. Another factor which may have influenced the jury was a newspaper report that if the defendants were convicted, Dr. Weaver, administrator for Murray's estate, proposed to sue Lawrence county for $5,000 under the "death by mob" statute of Ohio.

Throughout the trial interest was keen and attendance heavy, but racial feeling was apparently dormant. White and colored spectators mingled in the courtroom and corridors without friction and in friendly discussion.

Since the acquittal of the defendants, it is reported that the Lincoln Club plans to urge new indictments on charges of jail breaking, and abduction and kidnaping. Had the prosecutor insisted on these, in addition to the murder indictment, in the beginning there is hardly any doubt but that a conviction would have been won on one of the indictments. Lawrence county is still on trial for the lynching of Luke Murray.

Of those arraigned, William Johnson, James Hall, Willard Massie, Ralph McKee and James Johnson pleaded not guilty and were ordered to appear for preliminary hearings Aug. 12.

Milford Massie and Clyde Elkins were held to the grand jury when they waived preliminary hearings.

The charges were filed after six of the white men had been acquitted of second degree murder in connection with Murray's death.

LIMA, O.
STAR

AUG 3 1932

Six Acquitted Lynchers Faced By New Charge

Ironton, O., Aug. 2—(AP)—Acquitted of second degree murder charges arising from the death of a Negro, six white men today were charged with having broken into the South Point jail for the purpose of abducting a prisoner.

The men were tried in connection with the death of Luke Murray, Negro chauffeur, whose body was found in the Ohio river after he was taken from the jail. The new warrants were sworn to by C. A. Wright, chairman of the Lincoln club of Burlington, a Negro organization.

NEWARK, O.
Advocate and American Tribune

AUG 5 1932

WILL ARRAIGN FIVE IN LYNCHING

Ironton, Aug. 5.—(AP)—A delayed arraignment was planned today for five white men charged with breaking into the South Point jail to abduct Luke Murray, a negro prisoner whose body was found in the Ohio river several weeks ago.

Seven other white men were arraigned Wednesday on the same charge. Five of them pleaded not guilty and were ordered to appear for preliminary hearings Aug. 12. Two waived hearings and were held to the grand jury.

The other five, Taylor Napier, Theodore Johnson, Lawrence and Garland Massie and Louis McKee, failed to appear at their scheduled arraignment yesterday and officers said they were unable to find them.

COLUMBUS, O.
OHIO STATE JOURNAL

AUG 5 1932

FIVE DISAPPEAR IN LYNCH CASE

Accused Men Fail to Appear in Court on Charge of Abducting Negro.

IRONTON, O., Aug. 4.—(AP)—Five of 12 white men failed to appear in court today for arraignment on charges of breaking into the South Point jail to abduct Luke Murray, Negro prisoner, whose body was found in the Ohio River.

Seven of the men were arraigned yesterday and the others had promised to appear today. Authorities were unable to locate them.

TO TRY IRONTON LYNCHERS AGAIN

Courier 8-13-32

IRONTON, O., Aug. 11—(ANP)—Although a jury in common pleas court, Friday a week ago, acquitted six white men charged with second degree murder in the death of Luke Murray, 24-year-old chauffeur and butler for an Atlanta, Ga., family, charges of breaking into jail and kidnaping were lodged against these six and six others, Tuesday, by the Rev. C. A. Wright, president of the Lincoln Club of Burlington.

Pittsburgh Pa.

In the murder trial, the state contended, that the men broke into the jail, took Murray to the river and after striking him over the head, threw him overboard, so that he could drown. His body was found three days later.

The defense counsel admitted that the defendants broke into the jail and took Murray out, but insisted that he jumped out of the rowboat himself as he was being transported to the Kentucky shore.

The state was unable to prove that the men threw Murray overboard and the jury acquitted them.

However, the defendants have admitted the contentions contained in the current charges.

The Lincoln league was responsible for the original investigation into the case and has courageously fought to have the abductors and alleged murderers of Murray punished.

It was brought out at the murder trial that the young white boys in the town of Southport resented the influence, which Murray had with the pretty 16-year-old niece They complained that he acted like, a guardian angel and watch dog over her.

The boys who were after the girl were described as half wits by the state in closing the case.

It was also brought out that the knife with which Murray was alleged to have threatened one of the white boys was a souvenir of the 1928 political campaign and that, instead of threatening the boy, he sought to protect himself from an attack of Ben Hall and James Johnson, two young white hoodlums, both of whom were trying to get close to Nancy Adams.

The 12 men now accused will be given a hearing August 12.

OHIO LYNCHERS FACE BAR AGAIN

Journal and Guide 8-20-32
Norfolk Va.

Negro Guardian's Observation Of Child Too Religious

IRONTON, Ohio — (ANP)—Although a jury in Common Pleas Court on July 29, acquitted six white men charged with second degree murder in the death of Luke Murray, 24-year-old chauffeur and butler for an Atlanta, Ga., family, charges of breaking into jail and kidnaping were lodged a few days later against these six and six others by the Rev. C. A. Wright, president of the Lincoln Club of Burlington.

In the murder trial the state contended that the men broke into the jail, took Murray to the river, and after striking him over the head, threw him overboard so that he could drown. His body was found three days later.

The defense counsel admitted that the defendants broke into the jail and took Murray out, but insisted that he jumped out of the rowboat himself as he was being transported to the Kentucky shore. The defendants have admitted the contentions contained in the current charges.

The Lincoln Club was responsible for the original investigation also. It was brought out at the first trial that the young white boys in the town of Southport resented the influence which Murray had with the pretty 16-year-old niece of his employer, Nancy Adams. They complained that he acted like a guardian angel and watchdog over her.

The boys who were after the girl were described as half wits by the state in closing the case.

Murray is alleged to have threatened one of the white boys, instead of threatening the boy, he sought to protect himself from an attack of Ben Hall and James Johnson, two young white hoodlums, both of whom were trying to get close to Nancy Adams.

The twelve men now accused were given a hearing August 12.

LYNCHING COSTS COUNTY PLENTY

Courier.

IRONTON, O., Aug. 18.—(ANP)—Although the six defendants accused of taking Luke Murray from the South Point jail on June 7 and murdering him were acquitted by a jury here two weeks ago, the county agencies are concerned because of the money which the lynching trial cost.

A somewhat itemized statement of the expense which the white hoodlums who abducted Murray cost the county was published in the Ironton Tribune. It includes: Four hundred and fifty dollars for Atty. A. J. Layne, who defended five of the alleged lynchers. The county thus had to pay for both prosecution and defense counsel, except in the case of one lawyer

Pittsburgh Pa
8-20-32

for the prosecution whose fee was paid by outside agencies and one for the defense, who was paid by the family of the sixth client.

In addition to this $450, the county had to pay jurors $312, less the cost of transportation, and $169.00 to witnesses summoned by the state and the defense. This totals $930.90.

The above figure does not include the expense of the prosecutor's investigation, the expense to which the sheriff went in bringing in some of the witnesses, serving others with papers and the wear and tear on automobiles, the cost of gas and oil and $50 for the burial and exhumation of the murdered man.

Lynchings 1932
6
Legal Punishment of Lynchers

Ohio

3680

ASK GOV, TO ORDER PROBE OF OUTRAGE

Courier
Pittsburgh Pa
8/20/32

NEW YORK, Aug. 18 — A strong demand was made recently upon Governor George H. White of Ohio by the N. A. A. C. P. that he instruct Attorney General Bettman to prosecute personally the lynchers of Jule Murray, Atlanta Negro chauffeur, who was taken from the jail at Ironton, O. on June 7 and lynched. Authority for this action was cited by the association as being found in the Ohio General Code No. 333 where in enumerating the duties of the Attorney General it declares that "Upon the written request of the Governor he (the Attorney General) shall prosecute any person indicted for crime."

The association's letter sharply criticizes Governor White for refusing to take such action in the recent trials of seven persons who were charged with being members of the lynching mob. It will be remembered that these seven were acquitted, due largely, according to Theodore M. Berry, Cincinnati attorney and president of the Cincinnati Branch of the N. A. A. C. P., who served as official N. A. A. C. P. observer at the trials, to the "spinelessness and inefficiency" of the prosecution.

"If you had taken the action requested of you," the N. A. A. C. P.'s letter charges, "there is ample reason for belief that a different result would have been obtained at the trials for lynching." Subsequent to the lynching trials warrants were sworn out for the arrest of 12 men, seven of whom were placed in custody, charged with breaking into the jail and taking Murray out. "Opportunity for the convictions for lynching has thus passed," the N. A. A. C. P. states, but 'we now urge upon you that this second opportunity, less potent for good than the original one, but nevertheless of some considerable value, be taken advantage of in order that these lynchers of an innocent man may not go free."

Convictions on the charge of kidnaping and of breaking into the jail carry with them maximum prison terms of 20 years.

The N. A. A. C. P. letter points out that the lynchers of Murray not only lynched him, but "lynched the law of Ohio as well." Failure to put forth every possible effort to obtain convictions on the lesser charges "will unquestionably bring still further opprobrium to Ohio and your administration. Every thinking Negro and fair-minded white person of Ohio is watching eagerly to see what action is taken by yourself and by Attorney General Bottman," the N. A. A. C. P. letter declares.

In view of the fact that Governor White is a candidate for reelection and Attorney General Bottman is a candidate for the United States Senate, their action is these cases will probably have widespread repercussions in November. Branches of the N. A. A. C. P. throughout Ohio are joining with the National Office in the demand for action by Governor White and the Attorney General.

Lynchings-1932
O

Ohio

3683

3683

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

LYNCHING DEFENDANTS CLAIM NEGRO DROWNED

7-28-32

IRONTON, Ohio, July 27.—(AP)—Testifying in his own defense, Theodore Johnson, one of the six white men on trial for second degree murder in connection with the slaying of Luke Murray, Atlanta, Ga., negro, today under cross-examination maintained Murray jumped into the Ohio river and was drowned.

Johnson, the first defense witness, admitted he and the other five defendants removed Murray from the South Point, Ohio, jail after battering down the door, but claimed their only intention was to deport him from the community.

COLUMBUS, O.
DISPATCH
JUL 19 1932

Assert Lynching Probe Unfinished

Negro Group Wants Governor White to Take Hand in Ohio Affair.

IRONTON, OHIO, JULY 19.—(AP)—The trial of six white men, charged with second degree murder in the death of Luke Murray, 21, Negro, on June 7, will begin here July 22. The state charged the men killed Murray and threw his body into the Ohio river after taking him from the South Point jail.

All persons responsible for the lynching of Murray have not been placed under arrest nor incriminated by Lawrence county enforcement officers, is the claim of a committee appointed by the Lincoln club, Negro organization, after a month's investigation.

The committee contends that the door of the jail had been left unlocked by the officer in charge.

From the evidence which has been placed in the hands of Governor White, the committee reports, it appears that that official would be justified in assigning the attorney general to investigate and prosecute the case.

TOLEDO, O.
TIMES
JUL 23 1932

LYNCHING TRIAL GETS UNDER WAY

Eleven Jurors Are Seated To Hear Slaying Case Against Six Men

Ironton, O., July 22 (AP)—Eleven tentative jurors were selected from 65 persons questioned in common pleas court here today as six white men went on trial charged with lynching Luke Murray, Atlanta, Ga., colored.

When it became evident the original venire of 40 would be exhausted a second list of 25 was summoned. But tonight it was found necessary to call 20 more for examination tomorrow.

The defense exercised 12 peremptory challenges and the state 14 from 25 allowable.

The prosecuting attorney asked prospective jurors whether they would convict on circumstantial evidence. The defense counsel's line of questioning centered around whether all six defendants would be presumed guilty if one were found guilty.

When the jury is completed opening statements will be made and court adjourned until Monday. The state expects to require two days to present its arguments.

The state charged the six men—Theodore Johnson, Taylor Napier, Garland Massie, Milfird Massie, Clyde Elkins and Lawrence L. Massie—took Murray from the South Point, O., jail, and after severely beating or killing him, threw his body into the Ohio river. The body was recovered three days later. Murray had been jailed for threatening a white man with a knife.

The defendants said Murray jumped from a boat while being taken across the river.

TOLEDO, O.
TIMES
JUL 27 1932

State Rests Case In Lynching Trial

Ironton, O., July 26 (AP)—The state rested its case late today in the murder trial of six white men accused of lynching Luke Murray, Atlanta colored chauffeur, as the defense continued its efforts to show that Murray jumped from a boat into the Ohio river instead of being beaten and thrown, as charged.

CINCINNATI, O.
TIMES-STAR
JUL 25 1932

Opening Statements Made in Lynching Murder Trial

IRONTON, O., July 25—(AP)—Before a jury of twelve white men, opposing attorneys made their opening statements today in the murder trial of six white men accused of lynching Luke Murray, a Negro chauffeur from Atlanta, Ga.

The defendants, Theodore Johnson, Taylor Napier, Clyde Elkins and Garland, Milford and Lawrence L. Massie, the State contends, either beat the Negro to death or caused him to drown.

COLUMBUS, O.
DISPATCH
JUL 23 1932

Completing Jury In Lynching Case

Testimony in Trial of Six White Men Will Be Started Monday.

IRONTON, OHIO, JULY 23.—(AP).—Attorneys in the murder trial of six white men accused of lynching Luke Murray, Atlanta, Ga., Negro, expected to complete the jury today. Testimony will be started Monday.

Murray died mysteriously several weeks ago after several men forcibly removed him from the jail at South Point, Ohio, where he had been held for allegedly threatening a white man with a knife. The Negro's body was found in the Ohio river.

Drowning Claimed

The defendants, Theodore Johnson, Taylor Napier, Clyde Elkins and Garland, Milford and Lawrence L. Massie, claim Murray drowned after jumping from a rowboat while being taken across the river.

The state, however, contends the six caused his death by beating him in the stream.

Eleven jurors were seated tentatively yesterday, from a panel of 65 veniremen. Another list of 20 veniremen was called for today. Twelve peremptory challenges were used by the defense and 14 by the state, from 25 allowable.

COLUMBUS, O.
OHIO STATE JOURNAL
JUL 27 1932

STATE FINISHES IN LYNCH TRIAL

Ironton Defense Expected to Round Out Its Case Before Nightfall.

IRONTON, O., July 26. — (AP) — The state rested its case today in the murder trial of six white men accused of lynching Luke Murray, Atlanta Negro chauffeur, as the defense continued its efforts to show the Negro jumped from a boat into the Ohio River instead of being beaten and thrown, as charged.

Fifteen witnesses were called by the state. Their testimony centered around Murray's abduction from the South Point, O., jail, where he had been placed after threatening a white man with a knife on June 7.

REPORTED STILL ALIVE.

The state attempted to show Murray died from a severe beating and a body subsequently recovered from the river was that of the Negro. The defense, however, went so far as to hint that Murray might still be alive.

However, Howard Davidson of Atlanta, the Negro's employer, testified Murray was unable to swim.

Dr. Ralph Massie, who performed an autopsy on the body recovered from the river, testified dislocation of the first and second vertebrae and a bump on the head were the only marks of violence. He declined to state whether the injuries were received before or after the Negro was thrown or jumped into the water.

CASE NEARS JURY.

The defense is expected to round out its case by tomorrow afternoon, admitting that the defendants, Theodore Johnson, Taylor Napier, Clyde Elkins and Garland, Milford and Lawrence Massie, took Murray from the South Point jail but asserting that Murray jumped out of a rowboat while he was being taken across the river.

COLUMBUS, O.
DISPATCH
JUL 25 1932

Trial of Lynching Case Under Way

Six Accused of Second Degree Murder in Death Of Negro Driver.

IRONTON, OHIO, JULY 25.—(AP).—Before a jury of 12 white men, opposing attorneys made their opening statements today in the murder trial of six white men accused of lynching Luke Murray, a Negro chauffeur from Atlanta, Ga.

Murray's body was found in the Ohio river several weeks after he had been forcibly removed from the South Point jail, where he had been held for allegedly threatening two white men with a knife.

The defendants, Theodore Johnson, Taylor Napier, Clyde Elkins and Garland, Milford and Lawrence L. Massie, the state contends, either beat the Negro to death or caused him to drown.

The defense contention was that the Negro drowned by his own act; that he jumped overboard from a rowboat while being taken across the river.

WAPAKONETA, O.
NEWS
JUL 27 1932

SIX ACCUSED IN NEGRO LYNCHING TO TAKE STAND

Ironton, O., July 27—The six men accused of lynching Luke Murray, the Negro chauffeur who was abducted from South Point village jail last June 7, prepared to tell their own stories of the affair on the witness stand today.

There will be no other defense witnesses, counsel announced after Prosecutor Lee D. Andrews had completed the state's case.

The state's case ends at the bank of the Ohio river, from which a body, purportedly Murray's was found a few days after his abduction. The six men have confessed, and were expected to repeat that confession today, that they took the Negro from jail and were "deporting" him across the river to Kentucky when he leaped from the boat and disappeared.

The six men on trial for second degree murder are Taylor Napier, Theodore Johnson, Clyde Elkins, Garland Taylor Massie, Lawrence Massie and Milford Massie.

WELLSTON, O
SENTINEL
JUL 28 1932

S FLOATER MURRAY'S BOD

IRONTON, O., July 28.—Theodore Johnson, 28, South Point, O., one of six defendants on trial in Lawrence county common pleas court here, on a charge of second degree murder, growing out of the alleged lynching of Luke Murray, Negro, by a mob after the prisoner was taken from the South Point jail, told a jury here Wednesday morning, that neither he nor any members of the mob struck Murray or molested him in any way.

Johnson said Murray jumped out of the boat while he was being taken across the Ohio river to West Virginia, where he had been ordered to disappear, and that the Negro disappeared in the Ohio river after he jumped from the boat and swam several feet.

Johnson created a sensation in court when he said that the "floater" found later was not the body of Murray, as he said Murray was wearing high-top shoes, and the badly decomposed body taken from the river had Oxfords or "low-cuts"

All of the six defendants are expected to be placed on the stand by the defense. The state rested Tuesday afternoon.

Before completing its testimony Tuesday afternoon, the state endeavored to show that the Negro died of injuries sustained at the hands of the mob. The defense maintains the Negro jumped from the boat and was drowned and that the members of the mob meant him no harm but were "deporting him into exile to West Virginia."

Johnson, Taylor Napier, Clyde Elkins and Garland, Milford and Lawrence Massie are the six white men on trial for the mob action.

Paragraph
Dennison-O.
JUL 30 1932

6 MEN FREED IN DEATH OF NEGRO

IRONTON, O.,—(AP)—Acquitted of charges of second degree murder in the death of Luke Murray, young Negro chauffeur of Atlanta, Ga., six white men were released from custody here yesterday.

A jury of 12 white men, which received the case late Friday, deliberated eight hours and returned to the courtroom once for additional instructions of the court, before returning the verdict.

The six, Taylor Napier, Theodore Johnson, Clyde Elkins, and Milford, Garland and Lawrence Massie, were accused of abducting Murray from the South Point, O., jail, beating him to death and throwing the body into the Ohio River.

The Negro had been jailed for allegedly threatening a white man with a knife.

The defendants admitted they forcibly removed Murray from the jail, but denied they lynched him.

They said the Negro jumped from a rowboat in which they were taking him across the river.

Fearing a demonstration from the courtroom crowded with both Negroes and whites, Common Pleas Judge Dan C. Jones ordered silence until after the room was cleared.

Four members of the jury, it was reported, held out for a manslaughter verdict until the fifth ballot, when agreement was reached.

POMEROY, O.
TRIBUNE
JUL 26 1932

DEFENSE CLAIMS STATE HAS FAILED TO PROVE CRIME

Insist Prosecution Must Show Dead Man Is Missing Negro

IS LYNCHING CASE

Wherein Six Accused Of Kidnaping And Killing Prisoner

Ironton, O., July 26—INS—Defense lawyers claimed an important victory today when the trial for six white men charged with the murder of Luke Murray, Atlanta, Ga., negro chauffeur, was reopened in common pleas court before a jury of 12 white men and a big crowd of spectators.

Hammering away at the "another fellow" defense which they introduced unexpectedly yesterday, defense attorneys said the state has not been able to prove that the man found in the Ohio river, allegedly the victim of the six white men, was Murray.

Calling "Rip" Winters, South Point, O., marshall, to the stand the defense obtained testimony that Murray shortly before he was allegedly abducted from jail, weighed only 135 pounds, while the body dragged from the river' weighed almost 200 pounds..

The state contends that Murray, who was jailed for threatening two white men with a knife, was kidnaped from jail, beaten, and possibly lynched, before being thrown into the river.

Due to decomposition of the body, identification was impossible, attorneys for the white men said. The state answered that clothing worn by the man found in the river could be identified as Murray's.

Theodore Johnson, Taylor Napier, Clyde Elkins, Garland Massie, Lawrence Massie and Milford Massie are the defendants.

Coroner John King, who ordered their arr[illegible]t, said that the body removed from the river showed indications of severe beating. The defense, admitting that the white men removed Murray from jail, said they did not attack him, and questioned whether he is dead.

WELLSTON, O
SENTINEL
JUL 29 1932

IRONTON JURY IS DEADLOCKED IN LYNCH CASE

IRONTON, O., July 29—Apparently deadlocked, the jury trying six white men on second degree murder charges in the death of Luke Murray, Atlanta, Ga., Negro, was locked up last night shortly after 10 o'clock.

Deliberations were resumed at 9 a. m. today.

IRONTON, O., July 29.—Argument in the "mob murder" trial of six white men accused of lynching Luke Murray, Atlanta, Ga., Negro, was concluded and the fate of the sextet of defendants placed in the hands of the jury.

Testimony was concluded late Wednesday. The state introduced three rebuttal witnesses: Clayton Davidson, cousin of Howard Davidson, Atlanta, Ga., employer of Murray, Nancy Adams, orphaned niece of Howard Davidson and J. M. Adams, Negro physician of Huntington, W. Va.

Prosecution counsel subjected the defendants to a rigid cross-examination Thursday without shaking their story that Murray, chauffeur for Howard Davidson, jumped from their rowboat while being deported across the Ohio river into exile into West Virginia and drowned. A body identified as Murray's but which the defense claims was not, was found several days later. The state claims that Murray was murdered by the defendants and his body then thrown into the river. Doctors testified Murray's neck was broken.

SIX ALLEGED LYNCHERS ARE SET FREE

Men Admitted Taking Chauffeur from Ohio Jail.

THREE OF THEM NAMED "MASSIE"

Youth's Body Found, Neck Broken, in River.

Afro American
8/6/32
Baltimore Md

IRONTON, Ohio (CNS)—Acquitted by a jury of white men, six white men, including three brothers named Massie, went free Friday following trial for second degree murder growing out of the death of Luke Murray, colored chauffeur of Atlanta, whose body was found in the Ohio River several days after the defendants forcibly removed him from jail.

Three Massies

The accused men, Taylor Napier, Theodore Johnson ,Clyde Elkins, and Milford, Garland, and Lawrence Massie, have admitted they forcibly removed the Negro from the South Point, Ohio jail after battering down the door, but claimed their only intention was to deport him from the community. They claim Murray jumped from a boat while he was being taken across the Ohio River into Kentucky.

The State charged the six men took Murray from the South Point, Ohio jail and after severely beating or killing him, threw his body into the Ohio River. The body was found three days later with the neck broken.

Murray had been jailed for allegedly threatening two white men with a knife. He had been in South Point only a few days and was en route North with his employer's family.

The trial lasted seven days, two days being consumed in the examination and selection of the jury from 110 veniremen.

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

South Carolina

3684

Elberton, Ga., Star
Friday, October 14, 1932

Walhalla Man Admits Leading Lynching Mob

Walhalla, Oct. 11.—Tried and acquitted of being a participant in a mob of men who lynched Allen Green, negro, in 1930 for an alleged attack upon a white woman of Oconee county, Laudy Harris, white man, surrendered himself to Sheriff Jim Thomas of Oconee Sunday, returned the sheriff's pistol which was taken away from the officer on the night of the lynching and told the sheriff he was "sorry."

Harris was not taken into custody but is still in Walhalla and in the light of his acquittal along with a score of other white men alleged to have been involved in the lynching of the negro, just what action will be taken by Solicitor Leon W. Harris in the matter is not known. Efforts to communicate with Solicitor Harris, who is in Rock Hill due to the death of his mother-in-law, were unavailing this afternoon.

In his confession, Harris implicated a prominent citizen of Walhalla as being one of the leaders of the mob. The man he named, according to Oconee officers, was one of those tried for the lynching of the negro.

Lynch Verdict Campaign Issue

COLUMBIA, S. C.—(ANP)—Although South Carolina has a law which makes the county in which a lynching occurs liable to the heirs of the dead person to the extent of $2,000—try and get it.

The difficulty of collecting has been disclosed as one of the by-products of the election campaign in Oconee county where, in 1930, Mrs Allen Green was awarded $2,000 and costs in the death of her husband at the [illegible]

One of the candidates for the state senate in the district has been accused of being Mrs. Green's lawyer enabling her to obtain judgment against the county, but the Seneca Journal, which is supporting this candidate, Harry Hughs, has come to his defense with following explanation:

"Certain people, knowing it to be false, are telling that Harry Hughs sued the county for the Negro woman, Allen Green's widow. They know Sam H. Craig and John F. Craig of Pickens were her lawyers. They know that Hughs and Hughs defended the county and have beat Craig trying to collect his judgment twice in the Circuit and once in the Supreme court."

Thus instead of being blameable for enabling Mrs. Green to obtain the judgment, this candidate, in the implication of the Seneca Journal, has to his credit a successful battle to keep her from collecting.

Norfolk, Va.

INDEPENDENT
Lewisburg W. Va.
OCT 14 1932

TRIAL OF LYNCHING SUITS

The two suits instituted against the Greenbrier county court for $5000 each for the lynching of Geo. Banks and Tom Jackson, negroes, on Wilson hill two miles west of Lewisburg early on the morning of Dec. 10 last may be tried at the present term of the Kanawha county circuit court, which the supreme court recently held had jurisdiction. Counsel for the plaintiffs, Thelma Mullens, sister of Banks, and Margaret Jackson, widow of Jackson, said on Saturday that an effort would be made to have the cases placed at the foot of the September trial docket of circuit court for hearing this term. Both men were under indictment for the murder of Constable Joe Myles and Jack Brown on the night of Nov. 22 last at Leslie.

AN HONEST CONFESSION.

An Associated Press dispatch from Walhalla, S. C., told how Laudy Harris of that place went with his pastor to the county jail one Sunday and confessed that he led a lynching mob back in 1930. This was a mob that lynched Allen Green, a Negro, and Harris was one of a score of persons who were acquitted when charged with the crime. As the law does not allow a man to be placed twice in jeopardy for the same offence, Harris cannot be prosecuted again on the strength of his confession.

The motive that prompted this murderer to confess his crime does not appear to be clear. He is reported to have told the Sheriff: "An honest confession is good for the soul. I have made my peace with you and my Lord." This sounds more like blasphemy than any emotion of true penitence. Being assured of immunity from punishment, this murderer may have confessed his crime to reap the reward of an enhanced reputation in his local community, which probably looks up to lynchers as its leading citizens.

As to making his peace with the sheriff, unless that officer happened to be one of that exceptional class who repel lynchers from their jail doors, we do not see any occasion for any renewal of peace overtures. Making peace with the Lord is something else again, and depends largely upon what kind of a Lord a lyncher can believe in if any. As to the confession being honest, it reeks with dishonest intention, in that its maker knows that he runs no jeopardy by making it. However, it is another contribution to lynching psychology.

Age
10-22-32
New York N.Y.

RALEIGH, N. C.
NEWS OBSERVER
OCT 26 1932

SOMETHING WRONG, SOMEHOW.

Goldsboro News-Argus.

Here is the story, in brief:

In April, 1930, a Negro was lynched in Oconee County, South Carolina.

Laudy Harris, of Walhalla, was one of a score of persons accused of taking part in the lynching who pleaded not guilty, was tried, and acquitted.

A couple of days ago, Harris came with his church pastor to the sheriff, returned a pistol which was taken from the sheriff by the lynching mob, and confessed that he was the leader of the mob. As the laws of South Carolina do not allow a man to be tried twice for the same crime when his life would be in jeopardy, no charges could be lodged against Harris on the basis of his statement.

"An honest confession is good for the soul," he told the sheriff. "I have made my peace with you and my Lord."

That's the story. It is reported as if complete, a story ended and with nothing more to add.

Yet, somehow, there seems something wrong with it. Perhaps it is that Harris seems so very confident of his Lord.

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Yet, somehow, there seems something wrong with it. Perhaps it is that Harris seems so very confident of his Lord.

LYNCHING IS VITAL CAMPAIGN ISSUE

Courier 9-17-32

COLUMBIA, S. C., Sept. 15—(By ANP)—Although South Carolina has a law which makes the county in which a lynching occurs liable to the heirs of the dead person to the extent of $2,000—try and get it.

The difficulty of collecting has been disclosed as one of the by-products of the election campaign in Oconee county, where, in 1930, Mrs. Allen Green was awarded $2,000 and costs in the death of her husband at the hands of a mob.

One of the candidates for the State senate in the district has been accused of being Mrs. Green's lawyer, enabling her to obtain judgment against the county, but the Seneca Journal, which is supporting this candidate, Harry Hughs, has come to his defense with the following explanation:

"Certain people, knowing it to be false, are telling that Harry Hughs sued the county for the Negro woman, Allen Green's widow. They know Sam H. Craig and John F. Craig of Pickens were her lawyers. They know that Hughs & Hughs defended the county and have beat Craig trying to collect his judgment twice in the Circuit and once in the Supreme Court."

Thus, instead of being blamable for enabling Mrs. Green to obtain the judgment, this candidate, in [illegible] application of the Seneca Jour- [illegible] has to his credit a successful [illegible] to keep her from collecting.

Lynchings-1932

South Carolina

3685

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

"To Hell With The Constitution," Says South Carolina Legislator

Journal and Guide

COLUMBIA, S. C.—(ANP)—Efforts to pass a bill to repeal the lynching bill requiring counties in which a lynching occurs to pay the family of the victim the sum of $2,000, failed here when the House of Representatives declined to ratify the bill. 2-27-32

The bill was introduced by M. B. Huggins of Florence and was debated for several hours. Among those favoring the passage of the bill was J. P. Mason of Oconee County, in which a lynching occurred some two years ago and the county was ordered to pay the wife of the victim $2,000 by the Supreme Court. Norfolk, Va.

Mason spoke bitterly against the lynching bill in urging the passage of the new bill repealing it, declaring: "When I put $2,000 for that purpose in our county bill it will be when my hand is paralyzed and somebody else writes it."

Following in the wake of applause with which his remarks were greeted the Oconee County representative added: 'When the General Assembly does not respect my wife and daughter, to hell with the constitution."

S.C. Fails to Repeal its Lynching Bill

Afro-American

COLUMBIA, S.C. (ANP)—Efforts to pass a bill to repeal the lynching bill requiring counties in which a the victim the sum of $2,000, failed the victim the sum of $2,00, failed here Thursday, when the House of Representatives declined to ratify the repealing measure.

The bill was introduced by M. B. Huggins of Florence and was debated for several hours. Among those favoring the passage of the bill was J. P. Mason of Oconee County, in which a lynching occurred some two years ago and the county was ordered to pay the wife of the victim $2,000 by the Supreme Court. Mason spoke bitterly against the bill in urging the passage of the new bill repealing it, declaring: "When I put $2,000 for that purpose in our county bill, it will be when my hand is paralyzed and somebody else writes it." Following in the wake of applause with which his remarks were greeted, the Oconee county representative added: "When the general assembly does not respect my wife and daughter, to hell with the constitution."

CHARLESTON, S. C.
NEWS

FEB 13 1932

No Premiums to Lynchers

The general assembly has refused, by an overwhelming vote, to repeal the law whereby the families of victims of lynchers may be awarded $2,000 by a jury. This smacks of downright refusal by the general assembly to offer premiums to lynchers. If a county against which a jury, of its own people, has brought in a verdict won't pay the judgment, why does it not lynch the jury?

"TO HELL WITH THE CONSTITUTION" SAYS SOUTH CAROLINA LEGISLATOR

Whig 3-3-32

COLUMBIA, S. C., March 2, — Efforts to pass a bill to repeal the lynching bill requiring counties in which a lynching occurs to pay the family of the victim the sum of $2,000 failed here when the House of Representatives declined to ratify the bill.

The bill was introduced by M. B. Huggins of Florence and was debated for several hours. Among those favoring the passage of the bill was J. P. Mason of Oconee County, in which a lynching occurred some two years ago and the county was ordered to pay the wife of the victim $2,000 by the Supreme Court.

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Following in the wake of applause with which his remarks were greeted the Oconee County representative added: "When the General Assembly does not respect my wife and daughter, to hell with the constitution."

Seneca, S. C., Journal
Wednesday, May 4, 1932

After Two Years, Allen Green's Widow Fails to Collect $2000

The statutory sum of $2,000 paid by the State of South Carolina to survivors of a lynching has never been paid to the relatives of Allen Green, Oconee negro lynched two years ago.

Green was taken from the Oconee county jail by an irate mob. When Sheriff Thomas resisted and attempted to protect his prisoner he was seriously wounded and lay at the point of death in a hospital for several days. The mob hustled Green to a patch of woods several miles from Walhalla and there bound him to a tree and riddled his body with bullets.

Following an occurrence of that sort, South Carolina law says that survivors of the deceased be paid $2,000.

Sam B. Craig, of Pickens, John F. Craig, of Liberty, and B. F. Martin, of Greenville, entered suit to obtain the money and obtained a judgment for the amount asked. The Oconee county delegation refuse to make the appropriations, however, and mandamus proceedings were taken in original jurisdiction in the supreme court, but that body held that it had na right to order the legislature to make any appropriations, and that its functions were to interpret the acts of the legislature.

A levy was then made upon $1,000 which had accumulated in the office of the clerk of court through cases but Judge T. S. Sease, presiding at Anderson, refused the petition to levy the money from the clerk's office, and an appeal has been taken from that order.

The supreme court is expected to hand down a decision on this question soon it was indicated.

S. C. CANDIDATES MAKE LYNCHING ISSUE

Reporter 9-10-32 Birmingham Ala.

Columbia, S. C., Sept. 15.—(By ANP)—Although South Carolina has a law which makes the county in which a lynching occurs liable to the heirs of the dead person to the extent of $2,000—try and get it.

The difficulty of collecting has been disclosed as one of the by-products of the election campaign in Oconee county, where, in 1930, Mrs. Allen Green was awarded $2,000 and costs in the death of her husband at the hands of a mob.

One of the candidates for the state senate in the district has been accused of being Mrs. Green's lawyer, enabling her to obtain judgment against the county, but the Seneca Journal, which is supporting this candidate, Harry Hughs, has come to his defense with the following explanation:

"Certain people, knowing it to be false, are telling that Harry Hughs sued the county for the Negro woman, Allen Green's widow. They know Sam H. Craig and John F. Craig of Pickens were her lawyers. They know that Hughs & Hughs defended the county and have beat Craig trying to collect his judgment twice in the Circuit and once in the Supreme Court."

Thus, instead of being blamable for enabling Mrs. Green to obtain the judgment, this candidate, in the implication of the Seneca Journal, has to his credit a successful battle to keep her from collecting.

NEW YORK
NEWS

OCT 12 1932

ADMITS LYNCHING, WON'T BE PUNISHED

Walhalla, S. C., Oct. 11 (AP).—Laudy Harris of Walhalla, went with his pastor to the Oconee County Jail Sunday and confessed to Sheriff John Thomas that he was the leader of a mob that lynched Allen Green, colored, in April, 1930, it became known here today. Harris was one of a score of persons acquitted in connection with the lynching. As the law does not allow a man to be tried twice for the same crime when his life is in jeopardy, he cannot be prosecuted.

CAROLINA LYNCHER CONFESSES CRIME TO AUTHORITIES

Constitution 10-12-32 Atlanta Ga.

WALHALLA, S. C., Oct. 11.—(AP) Laudy Harris, of Walhalla, declaring that "an honest confession is good for the soul," went with his pastor to the Oconee county jail, Sunday and confessed to Sheriff John Thomas that he was the leader of a mob that lynched Allen Green, negro, in April, 1930, it became known here today.

Harris returned to Sheriff Thomas the officer's pistol which was snatched from his hand the night of the lynching.

Harris was one of a score of persons tried and acquitted in connection with the lynching. Green had been arrested on a charge of assaulting a white woman.

As the laws of this state do not allow a man to be tried but once for the same crime when his life is in jeopardy, there are no charge to be lodged against Harris.

Honest Confession Good For Soul, Sheriff Hears From Lips of Mob Leader

Commercial Appeal 10-12-32 Memphis, Tenn.

WALHALLA, S. C., Oct. 11—(AP)—Laudy Harris of Walhalla declared "an honest confession is good for the soul," and went with his pastor to the Oconee County jail and confessed to Sheriff John Thomas that he was the leader of a mob that lynched Allen Green, negro, in April, 1930.

He returned to the sheriff the officer's pistol which was snatched from his hand the night of the lynching.

Harris was one of a score of persons tried and acquitted of the lynching. Green had been arrested on a charge of assaulting a woman.

As the laws of this state do not allow a man to be tried more than once for the same crime when his life is in jeopardy, there are no charges to be lodged against Harris.

"An honest confession is good for the soul," Harris told Sheriff Thomas. "I have made my peace with your and my Lord."

Sheriff Thomas said that he was "overwhelmed" and accepted the man's confession "in good faith."

NEW YORK
HERALD-TRIBUNE

OCT 12 1932

Lyncher, Acquitted, Confesses, Goes Free

WALHALLA, S. C., Oct. 11 (AP).—Landy Harris, of Walhalla, went with his pastor to the Oconee County jail Sunday and confessed to Sheriff John Thomas that he was the leader of a mob that lynched Allen Green, Negro in Apr~~il, 193~~0, it became known here today.

Harris was one of a score of persons acquitted in connection with the lynching. As the law does not allow a man to be tried twice for the same crime when his life is in jeopardy, Harris cannot be prosecuted.

"An honest confession is good for the soul," Harris told Sheriff Thomas. "I have made my peace with you and my Lord."

DENYING HER JUST CLAIM

South Carolina has a lynch law compelling a county in which such a lawless act, if committed, pay the family of the victim two thousand dollars. In April, 1930, Allen Green, a farmer of Oconee county, that state, was accused of the usual crime, for which he was lynched. The widow sued the county for the two thousand dollars and obtained judgment. She has since been unable to collect it. The sincerity of those who had the law enacted is unquestioned and they are deserving of plaudits, but there should be a proper execution of it. There should be some upstanding citizens of this county who will take a brave stand in behalf of this woman who was deprived of the support of her husband for no fault of hers. These citizens should force a proper compliance with the law. In connection with this case, another chapter is being written. Landy Harris, a young white man, has recently become conscience stricken and made the admission that he was a leader of the mob that lynched Green more than two years ago. This was done in face of the fact that he with seventeen other accused lynchers was tried for the offense and was acquitted. No doubt, at the trial Harris swore that he had nothing to do with the lynching. Conscience is a great element within a man. If allowed to persue its course, it will always lead one in a proper direction. If it had been adhered to originally, very likely the colored man would not have been lynched, the county in which the lynching took place would not have a two thousand dollar judgment hanging over it and the young man would have been an upstanding citizen of his community. The authorities may not place him in jeopardy a second time for this offense, but he may at least be gotten for perjury.

Tribune 10-22-32
Savannah, Ga.

Lynchings-1932

Texas.

3686

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

LYNCHERS CHARGED WITH MURDER

Reporter

Crockett, Texas, April 7.—W. A. Ackley, 74, and his nephew, Paul Ackley, 24, both farmers, and relatives of a white woman who accused Dave Tillis, 52, of insulting her, were charged Monday night with murder in connection with the lynching of Tillis Friday.

4-9-32

Three more men were being sought by Sheriff J. L. Hazlett, after the arrest of the pair [illegible] the ~~Austonio~~ community ~~near dismal Blackjack~~ Forest, where Tillis was seized from the protection of Arch Maples, candidate for sheriff, and hanged to a blackjack tree.

MESSENGER

Marshall. Tex.

APR 3 1932

NEGRO LYNCHED BY FOUR MEN NEAR CROCKETT

State Record of Over One Year Is Broken by Mob Violence

BLACK ACCUSED BY WHITE WOMAN

State Rangers Are Ordered To Scene to Investigate Case

Crockett, Tex., April 2. (LP)—District Attorney Ben Greenwood arrived here today from Palestine for an investigation of the hanging last night of Dave Tillis, 52-year old negro farm hand, in the first Texas lynching since June 17, 1930. State Rangers also will investigate the affair, Adjutant General W. W. Sterling announced at Austin.

Mrs. Hattie Parker, a white woman, said she drove Tillis from her home with an ax last Wednesday night after he had removed his boots and announced plans for spending the night with her. Records here show that Tillis was charged with attempted assault on an 11-year old negro girl two years ago but was no-billed by a grand jury.

Arch Maples, on whose farm Tillis lived, said he was bringing the negro here last night for safekeeping when four men, some of whom were armed, stopped him on Highway 21 and took the negro.

Mrs. Parker told relatives that the negro brought an armload of groceries to her home after she had retired saying they were from his employer, Maples. The negro then asked for "pay" and when Mrs. Parker said she had no money to give him he advanced to the bed, pulled off his boots and placed his hand on Mrs. Parker's thigh, according to her story, saying this was the pay he wanted. She said she then seized the ax and her 9-year old boy tossed the negro's boots out the window.

Maples said he was driving the negro toward Crockett in an automobile when a party of five men unknown to him stepped in the road. One had a shotgun and another a pistol. The one with the shotgun ordered Maples to the side of the road while the other four clambered over a fence with the negro and disappeared into the night.

Maples said he sent no groceries to Mrs. Karker by the negro Wednesday night.

Maples continued to Crockett and returned near midnight with Sheriff J. L. Hazlett, Jailer L. M. Estes, Dr. C. W. Butler and M. Bromberg. The party found Tillis swinging from a tree limb at the top of a hill, 200 yards from the highway. He had been struck on the top of the head and his hands tied behind him.

The party cut the body down and brought it to the jail here. Physicians made a detailed examination today under direction of District Attorney Greenwood. They reported death was due to strangulation and that though the head blow probably was severe enough to cause concussion that the negro's skull had not been fractured.

After examining the body, the district attorney took a detailed statement from Maples and with local authorities started for the old Carson place in the southwest part of the county to question Mrs. Parker. A widow, Mrs. Parker lives alone except for her nine-year old child at a farmhouse not far from the Maples place.

District Attorney Greenwood said the lynching was the first in this district since he has been in office and that he is particularly anxious to determine all of the facts in the case. He planned to visit the scene of the kidnaping and hanging.

In 1931 Texas passed the second lynchless year since 1882 when records were first kept on mob activities. In 1930, three lynchings were recorded, with all of the victims negroes. They were: George Hughes, burned to death at Sherman May 9; George Johnson, killed at Honey Grove May 18; and William Roane, lynched at Bryan June 17.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX.
LIGHT

APR 3 1932

LYNCHING OF NEGRO TO GET RANGER PROBE

Four White Men Waylay Attack Culprit, Employer on Way to Peace Officers

CROCKETT, April 2.—(INS)—Texas Rangers were reported en route here tonight to investigate the lynching late last night of Dave Tillis, 50, negro farm hand, who purportedly attempted to attack a white woman at her home Wednesday night.

County officials who have been conducting an investigation today reported tonight they had not learned the identity of the four armed men who seized Tillis while being brought to Crockett.

EMPLOYER WAYLAID

Tillis had not been arrested but was in the custody of his employer, Arch Maples, a planter. According to Maples, he did not learn of the alleged attack until last night. He then put Tillis in a car and started to Crockett.

Before he reached town, four men seized the negro and dragged him from the car.

OFFICERS INFORMED

Maples continued on his way to Crockett and informed officers of what had occurred. When they returned to the scene, the negro was found hanging to a tree near the highway.

The negro's hands were tied and he had a severe scalp wound.

Physicians who examined the body here reported death was due to strangulation.

It was the first lynching to occur in the state in almost two years.

SAN ANGELO, TEX.
STANDARD

APR 3 1932

Lynching Of Negro Probed By Officials

Black Hanged To Tree After Entering Woman's Bedroom

FIRST IN YEAR

Candidate For Sheriff Was Taking Suspect To Officer

CROCKETT, April 2. (AP)—Silence tonight cloaked bat-infested "Black Jack" forest, 18 miles west of here in the Trinity River bottoms, as posses continued to search for four men who last night lynched Dave Tillis, 52, negro farmer.

The dim trail of the four men who avenged the honor of a white woman by hanging the negro to a gnarled blackjack tree with a double plow line, was all but obliterated by darkness.

Rangers arrived late tonight to aid officers in investigating the rural lynching which was the first in Texas in more than a year. No one knew who asked for the state offices, but it was generally understood here that the rangers were en route to take up the investigation.

Taken From Car

Tillis, a tenant farmer, was removed from the automobile of Arch Maples, 35, candidate for sheriff of Houston County, by four unmasked men, two of whom were armed. Maples was stopped as he was taking the negro to Crockett after a woman had accused Tillis of coming to her home Wednesday night before, entering her bed room and saying he was going to spend the night.

Maples said he could not recognize any of the four men as they stood in the darkness during the time he had his lights burning on his automobile.

"I was driving down the highway about 9 p. m.," Maples said, "when two men suddenly appeared in front of me in the road. One had a shotgun and the other a pistol.

Protested Action

"They commanded me to stop and ordered Dave out of the automobile.

"I told them to leave the negro alone as I was taking him to the sheriff at Crockett. They didn't say anything, but the man with the pistol walked up to the side of the car and shoved the pistol in my side.

"'Get out of that car and turn off your lights,'" Maples quoted the man as saying. He said he complied with the order and was told to remain beside the machine while two men appeared out of the forest and took the negro back into the woods.

Maples said a moment later his guard departed after telling him to drive on. The candidate for sheriff said he drove in to Crockett and notified Sheriff J. L. Hazlett. The two returned to the scene about 11 p. m. and found the negro hanging from a blackjack tree about 200 feet off the highway. His feet were about 18 inches off the ground. Tillis had strangled to death.

Negro Was Struck

A gash on his forehead showed the negro had been struck with a blunt instrument before he was lynched.

Sheriff Hazlett, District Attorney Ben Greenwood and County Attorney Henry Adams, spent the afternoon Saturday in the vicinity of the lynching, hoping to pick up a clue.

Tillis was charged two years ago with attacking an 11-year-old girl, but was never brought to trial.

Late tonight County Attorney Adams, Sheriff Hazlett and District Attorney Greenwood returned here and said they expected an arrest would be made Monday.

The district attorney said he had learned from the woman that the negro had placed his hand on her and her nine-year-old son then drove the negro from the house with an axe.

HOUSTON, TEX.
CHRONICLE

APR 3 1932

STATE RANGERS TO PROBE HANGING OF CROCKETT NEGRO

By Associated Press.

Austin, April 2. — William W. Sterling, adjutant general, said tonight that state rangers would be sent to Crockett to investigate the lynching of Dave Tillis, negro. Tillis was lynched last night after he assertedly had entered a white woman's bedroom in a home near Crockett.

○ ○ ○

Special to The Chronicle.

Crockett, April 2.—A grand jury probe of the lynching near here last night of Dave Tillus, negro farm hand, was indicated as officers continued the investigation tonight.

The negro was taken by four men and hanged to a tree about 18 miles from here. He was being brought to town by Arch Maples, a candidate for sheriff. The negro is alleged to have gone to the home of a white woman, who ran him away with an ax.

Maples' car, in which he had the negro, was stopped, he told officers, by four men who ordered him to turn the lights off. One of the men stood guard over Maples while the others took the negro into the woods, where he was hanged.

Sheriff J. L. Hazlett brought the body to town. Officers went over the scene carefully during the afternoon.

DALLAS, TEX.
TIMES-HERALD

APR 3 1932

RANGERS REPORTED EN ROUTE TO PROBE CROCKETT LYNCHING

Crockett. Tex., April 2 (INS).—Texas rangers were reported en route here tonight to investigate the lynching late last night of Dave Tillis, 50, negro farm hand, who purportedly attempted to attack a white woman at her home near here.

County officials who have been conducting an investigation today reported tonight they had not learned the identity of the four armed men who seized Tillis while being brought to Crockett.

Tillis had not been arrested, but was in the custody of his employer, Arch Maples, a planter. According to Maples, he did not learn of the alleged attack until last night. He then put Tillis in a car and started to Crockett.

Before he reached the town, four men seized the negro and dragged him from the car.

Maples continued on his way to Crockett and informed officers of what had occurred. When they returned to the scene, the negro was found hanging from a tree near the highway.

The negro's hands were tied and he had a severe scalp wound.

Physicians who examined the body here reported death was due to strangulation.

It was the first lynching to occur in the state in almost two years.

Sherman Riot Cases Dismissed; Incident Closed

East Bernard
[illegible]

GAINESVILLE, Tex.—With the dismissal of charges against Jeff 'Slim' Jones, Webb Purdom and Jess Roper, final chapters has been written to the infamous Sherman riot cases. Charges were originally filed against 14 men as an aftermath to the rioting at Sherman, May 9, 1930, when a mob, frustrated in an effort to lynch the alleged attacker of a white woman, burned the court house.

6-30-32

[illegible]

The accused man perished in the burning building. No convictions were secured.

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Texas

3687

DISPATCH
DALLES, TEX.

APR 5 1932

Charges of Murder Filed in Lynching Of Crockett Negro

TWO SUSPECTS MAKE $5000 BOND; THREE OTHERS WILL BE ARRESTED SOON, SAYS DISTRICT ATTORNEY.

United Press Leased Wire.

Crockett, April 5.—Three men were expected to be arrested today after murder charges already had had been filed against two in the lynching Friday night of Dave Tillis, 52, negro.

"I have a case," was the only statement District Attorney Ben Greenwood would make in regard to what led him to believe certain five men perpetrated the hanging of the negro to a black-jack tree.

W. A. Ackley, 74, and his nephew, Paul Ackley, 24, both relatives of Mrs. Hattie Smith, farm wife who claimed Tillis insulted her several nights before the lynching, had posted bond of $5000 each on the murder charges filed against them last night.

The lynching, the first in Texas since June 17, 1930, occurred as Arch Maples, candidate for sheriff and employer of Tillis, was taking the negro to Crockett for safekeeping. Five unmasked men took Tillis from Maples, who then proceeded to Crockett to tell Sheriff J. L. Hazlett. The two later found the body of Tillis swinging from a tree.

FORT WORTH, TEX.
PRESS

APR 4 [illegible]

CLUE TO CROCKETT LYNCHING LACKING

Texas Rangers Have Failed to Arrive for Investigation

By United Press.

CROCKETT, Texas, April 4.—Texas rangers, reported ordered

here by Adj.-Gen. W. W. Sterling, had failed to arrive today to investigate the lynching of a negro last Saturday morning.

Meantime, Houston County officers probed the case but ran up against a blank wall. Farmers and fishermen in the Trinity River bottoms disclaimed all knowledge of the identity of four men who took Dave Tillus from Arch Maples, candidate for sheriff, and hanged him.

Tillus, a tenant farmer on Maples' estate, was accused by a white woman of having invaded her bedroom.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX.
EXPRESS

APR 5 1932

TWO ARRESTED IN LYNCHING

Farmer, 74, and Nephew Charged With Murder of Crockett Negro

(By Associated Press)

CROCKETT, Tex., April 4.—W. A. Ackley, 74, and his nephew, Paul Ackley, 24, both farmers, relatives of a white woman who accused Dave Tillis, 52, negro, of insulting her, were charged tonight with murder in connection with the lynching of the negro Friday.

Three more men were being sought by Sheriff J. L. Hazlett following the arrest of the pair in

the Austonio community near Dismal Black Jack Forest, where the negro was seized from the protection of Arch Maples, candidate for

sheriff, and hanged to a blackjack tree.

The pair, the elder man an uncle of the woman accuser of the negro and the younger a brother, were arrested early tonight by Sheriff Hazlett, County Attorney Henry Adams and District Attorney Ben Greenwood, who spent the day in the Trinity River bottoms investigating the lynching of Tillis.

Both men were released under bonds of $5,000 each, which were signed by Crockett business men shortly after they were brought here.

The woman who lived apart from her husband, said the negro came to her home last Wednesday night and insulted her. Her nine-year-old son drove the negro from the house with an ax.

Tillis, a tenant farmer on Maples' farm, was being removed to Crockett Friday night by his landlord when two men armed with a shotgun and a pistol stopped Maples and took the negro from the car. Two other men appeared from the forest and dragged the negro away.

Maples said he could not recognize the men because they had their hats pulled over their eyes.

The candidates for sheriff drove on here, 18 miles from where the negro was taken from his car, and notified Sheriff Hazlett. The two returned to the forest and found the negro hanging from a blackjack tree suspended by a doubled plow line.

Officers tonight refused to divulge the basis for their complaints against the Ackleys.

Both men denied being present at the lynching, Sheriff Hazlett said.

DALLAS, TEX.
JOURNAL

APR 5 1932

May Nab Three More Today in Negro Lynching

CROCKETT, Texas, April 5 (UP).—Three men were expected to be arrested today after murder charges already had been filed against two in connection with the lynching Friday

night of Dave Tillis, 52-year-old negro.

"I have a case" was the only statement District Attorney Ben Greenwood would make in regard to what led him to believe certain five men perpetrated the hanging of the negro to a blackjack tree.

W. A. Ackley, 74, and his nephew, Paul Ackley, 24, both relatives of Mrs. Hattie Smith, farm wife who claimed Tillis came to her bedroom several nights before the lynching, had posted bond of $5,000 each on the murder charges filed against them last night.

Greenwood said three other men will be arrested and charged with murder. The lynching was the first in Texas since June 17, 1930.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX.
EXPRESS

APR 6 1932

3 MORE HELD IN LYNCHING PARTY

Trio of Relatives of White Woman Who Charged Negro Allowed Bonds

(By Associated Press)

CROCKETT, Tex., April 5.—Three more relatives of a white woman who asserted Dave Tillis, 52, negro, insulted her, were arrested in the Trinity River bottoms this afternoon and charged with the murder of the negro victim of a lynching party last Friday night.

The three men arrested were Rube Ackley, 35, cousin of the woman and son of W. A. Ackley, 74, who was charged Monday with the crime, R. L. Downs, 64, and Albert Smith, all farmers.

Paul Ackley, 24, brother of the woman, and W. A. Ackley are at liberty under $2,500 bonds each on charges of filed against them Monday.

Bond of $2,500 each was allowed the trio arrested today by Justice of the Peace Houston Betts, before whom formal murder charges were filed by Sheriff J. L. Hazlett, who went into the bottom lands to continue the investigation into the lynching of Tillis.

The five men charged with the lynching waived examining trial and the justice of the peace will refer the cases to the Houston County grand jury which meets next Aug. 15.

The quintet charged denied any complicity in the crime, each as-

serting he was not present last Friday night when four men took the negro from the custody of Arch Maples, 35, candidate for sheriff, who was delivering the negro to the sheriff here after the report the woman had been approached by Tillis.

Sheriff Hazlett tonight said he believed the arrest of the five men would end the investigation into the case.

"I don't think there will be any more arrests made in connection with the case," he said.

Tillis, tenant farmer on Maples' place, was hanged to a blackjack tree by a double ploy rope by four men who stopped Maples' automobile en route here with the negro.

Maples told authorities he did not recognize any of the four men who stopped his car near Blackjack Forest.

HOUSTON, TEX.
POST DISPATCH

APR 5 1932

Two Charged In Lynching

Uncle and Brother of Woman Insulted by Negro Held.

CROCKETT, April 5.—(Sp)—A 74-year-old farmer and his nephew, both relatives of a white woman who accused Dave Tillis, 52, negro, of insulting her, were charged with murder Monday night in connection with the lynching of the negro in Dismal Black Jack forest last Friday.

The men, W. A. Ackley, 74, and his nephew, Paul Ackley 24, both farmers, were arrested Monday night in the Austonio community near the scene of the lynching and brought to the Houston county jail here, where formal charges were filed against them before Justice of the Peace Houston Betts. The pair were arrested by Sheriff J. L. Hazlett, County Attorney Henry Adams and District Attorney Ben Greenwood, who spent the day in the Trinity river bottoms investigating the lynching of the negro.

Both men were released under $5000 bond shortly after they were brought to the jail.

Three other men, whose names the authorities refused to reveal, were expected to be arrested Tuesday, Sheriff J. L. Hazlett said.

The elder Ackley is an uncle of the woman accuser of the negro and the younger man is her brother, Sheriff Hazlett said.

The woman, a middle aged housewife, who lived apart from her hus- d, told neighbors last Thursday llis came to her home Wednes- and placed his hand on oman's 9-year-old son from the house with an ax.

Tillis, a tenant farmer on the farm of Arch Maples, 35, candidate for sheriff of Houston county, was picked up Friday afternoon by his landlord and started toward Crockett, where Maples intended to turn him over to authorities.

About 9 p. m. as Maples' automobile approached gloomridden Black Jack forest, two men appeared in the roadway armed with a shot gun and a pistol. The men commanded Maples to halt his machine and hand over the negro.

The men ordered Maples to turn off his motor car light and compelled him to stand outside of the automobile while the negro was dragged into the woods by two more men who appeared out of the forest.

Maples said he was unable to recognize any of the men as they had their hats pulled low over their eyes. He said he was released by his captors after the negro disappeared into the woods.

Part in Lynching Denied.

The candidate for sheriff drove on to Crockett, 18 miles, and notified Sheriff Hazlett. The two returned to the spot and found the negro hanging from a black jack tree suspended by a doubled plow line.

County authorities immediately launched an investigation into the death of the negro, who a year ago was charged with attacking an 11-year-old girl.

Reports were circulated here that the negro had been whipped on Thursday preceding the hanging.

Officers Monday night refused to divulge the basis of their complaints against the Ackleys.

Both men denied being present at the lynching, Sheriff Hazlett said.

HOUSTON, TEX.
POST DISPATCH
APR 4 1932

Negro Lynch Probe Futile

Texas Rangers Fail to Reach Crockett for Aid in Hunt.

CROCKETT, April 4.—(Sp)—Farmers and fishermen in the Trinity river bottom lands Sunday disclaimed any knowledge in the hanging of a negro which stirred Houston county Saturday morning.

Dismal Black Jack forest, 18 miles west of here, where the negro was hanged, was combed Sunday by authorities in an effort to find a possible clue as to the identity of four men who took the negro from Arch Maples, 35, candidate for sheriff, at the point of guns.

Squirrel guns popped into view here Sunday as a few men from the outer edges of the bottoms joined officers in their search for the four men.

County Attorney Henry Adams said an arrest may be made Tuesday or Wednesday. He said officers felt certain the case would be cleared up

Tillis, a tenant farmer on the estate of Arch Maples, whose father colonized this section of the county, was accused by a white woman of having come to her home, saying he was going to spend the night. The woman said the negro placed his hand on her thigh when he made the advance. She said her nine-year-old son drove the negro out of the house with an ax.

Texas rangers reported en route here to investigate the case did not arrive Sunday, Adams said.

The lynching was the first in Texas in more than a year.

HOUSTON, TEX.
POST DISPATCH
APR 6 1932

Five Make Bail In Lynching

Three More Charged With Part in Hanging Negro Near Crockett.

CROCKETT, April 6—(Sp)—Three more relatives of a white woman who asserted Dave Tillis, 52, negro, insulted her, were arrested in the Trinity river bottoms Tuesday afternoon and charged with the murder of the negro victim of a lynching party last Friday night.

The three men arrested early Tuesday afternoon were Rube Ackley, 35, cousin of the woman and son of W. A. Ackley, 74, who was charged Monday with the crime; R. L. Downs, 64, and Albert Smith, all farmers.

Paul Ackley, 24, brother of the woman, and W. A. Ackley are at liberty under $2500 bonds each on charges filed against them Monday.

Bonds of $2500 each was allowed the trio arrested Tuesday afternoon by Justice of the Peace Houston Betts, before whom formal murder charges were filed by Sheriff J. L. Hazlett, who went into the bottom lands to continue the investigation into the lynching of Tillis.

The five men charged with the lynching waived examining trial and the justice of the peace will refer the cases to the Houston county grand jury which meets next August 15.

All of the quintet denied part in the crime, each asserting he was not present last Friday night when four men took the negro from the custody of Arch Maples, 35, candidate for sheriff, who was delivering the negro to Hazlett here after reports the woman had been approached by Tillis.

Sheriff Hazlett Tuesday night said he believed there would not be any more arrests made in the case.

Tillis, tenant farmer on Maples' place, was hanged to a black jack tree by a doubled plow rope. Maples told authorities he did not recognize any of the four men who stopped his car near Black Jack forest.

District Attorney Ben Greenwood of Palestine and County Attorney Henry Adams of Crockett aided Sheriff Hazlett in the investigation.

DALLAS, TEX.
TIMES-HERALD
APR 6 1932

FIVE MEN HELD IN LYNCHING NEAR CROCKETT

SUSPECTS ARE RELATIVES OF WOMAN WHO SAID NEGRO INSULTED HER

Crockett, Tex., April 6 (AP):—Five farmers, all relatives of the woman who said Dave Tillis, 52, negro, insulted her, have been accused of participation in the lynching of Tillis Friday night.

Three of the men were arrested yesterday and the other two the day before. All were charged with murder and released under bonds of $2,500 each. They were Paul Ackley, brother of the woman; his uncle, W. A. Ackley; his cousin, Rube Ackley; H. L. Downs and Albert Smith.

The quintet waived examining trial and their cases will be referred to the grand jury. They maintained they were innocent.

The negro was seized from Arch Maples and hanged to a black jack tree. Maples was on his way to Crockett to deliver the negro to the sheriff.

Sheriff J. L. Hazlett said he did not expect to make any more arrests in connection with the lynching.

TEMPLE, TEX.
TELEGRAM
APR 6 [illegible]

OthersCharged With Lynching

Three More Relatives Of Woman Accusing Negro Are Arrested

CROCKETT, April 5 (AP)—Three more relatives of a white woman who asserted Dave Tillis, 52, negro, insulted her, were arrested in the Trinity river bottoms this afternoon and charged with the murder of the negro, lynched last Friday night.

The three men arrested were Rube Ackley, 35, cousin of the woman, H. L. Downs, 64, and Albert Smith, all farmers.

Paul Ackley, 24 brother of the woman, W. A. Ackley, 74, are at liberty under $2,500 bonds each on charges filed against them Monday.

Whites Charged With Murder In Lynching

CROCKETT, Tex., Apr. 14.—(A N. P.)—W. A. Ackley, 74, and Paul Ackley, his 24-year-old nephew, both white, have been arrested in connection with the lynching Friday night of Dave Tillis. Tillis was seized from the protection of one white man, Arch Maples, and hanged to a blackjack tree, after charges of insulting a white woman had been made against him. The Ackleys are relatives of the woman involved. Murder charges have been lodged against the white men by Sheriff J. L. Hazlett, who is seeking three more white men who are said to have participated in the hanging.

Virginia

3682

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

LYNCHER IS GIVEN 4 YEARS

Courier
1-23-32
Pittsburgh, Pa.

RICHMOND, Va., Jan. 21—(ANP)—In the first test of a decision under the lynch law of Virginia, a four-year sentence meted out to a mob member by the Mecklenberg county circuit court was upheld by the State Supreme court.

The mob member involved is John L. Hapgood, white, who aided in an attack on Milburn T. Neal, also white, and was sentenced to four years in the state penitentiary after conviction.

Hapgood's attorneys claimed that the indictment under which Hapgood was convicted did not fall under the terms of the special lynch law, but was an assault and battery covered by the common law. The state showed that the indictment followed, word for word, the section of the code which defined an offense under the lynch law.

If the victim had been colored, the probability is that the common-law penalities would have sufficed.

Corrected from
letter of Jan 25, 33
From Mr. Chadbourn

Lynchings-1932

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

West Virginia.

3688

LYNCHING SUIT TO BE HEARD AT JANUARY COURT TERM

Charleston, W. Va., Nov. 29 — T. G. Nutter, President of the Charleston Branch, Natonal Association for the Advancmeent of Colored People, reports that the Greenbrier County Lynching case, in which a relative of a lynched colored man is suing the country for damages, will be heard at the January term of the Knawha County Circuit Court.

Negro Star
Witchita Kans.
12/2/32

Mr. Nutter as attorney in the case, won a decision from the state Supreme Court reversing the Circuit Court, which had held that the suit could be brought only in a court of the county in which the lynching had occurred.

The suit is brought by Thelma Mullens as administratix of the estate of George Banks, who was removed from the county jail on Dec. 10. 1931 and put to death by a mob.

3688

Lynchings-1932

West Virginia

3681

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Governor Is Ready to Prosecute West Virginia Lynchers

Chicago Defender

1/2/32

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—Governor William G. Conley of West Virginia has written to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People promising vigorous prosecution of the mobbists who recently lynched two men in his state. His letter, addressed to Walter White, N. A. A. C. P. secretary, says:

"Your letter of the 17th instant is received, concerning the vigorous action taken to bring the lynchers in Greenbrier county to justice. Two others have been arrested since Mr. Nutter reported to you. There will be no let-up. Race, color or religion must not be permitted to interfere with bringing to justice the persons guilty of this deplorable crime, which under the laws of this state is classed as murder."

BAR LYNCHING INDICTMENT.

West Virginia Jurors, However, Accuse Doctor of Tampering Attempt.

N.Y. Times

1-24-32

LEWISBURG, W. Va., Jan. 23 (AP).—The Greenbrier County Grand Jury today refused to indict four men charged with murder in the lynching of two Negroes here Dec. 10.

An indictment was returned charging Dr. W. E. Myles of White Sulphur Springs with unlawfully procuring two prospective jurors to be summoned for grand jury duty "with intent that said jurors should be biased in their conduct as jurors."

Earl, Pete and Jack Legg, brothers, and X. Y. McClung were then dismissed from custody after the grand jury refused to indict them. They were accused of being members of a mob who took Tom Jackson and George Banks, Negroes, from the county jail and hanged them from the crossarms of a telephone pole.

The Negroes were in jail charged with killing Constable Joseph H. Myles, a brother of Dr. Myles.

County Won't Pay Bill for Lynching

~~Macon~~ Telegraph

LEWISBURG, W. Va., Feb. 3. (AP).—The Greenbrier county court refused Tuesday to pay a bill for $10,000 presented as a result of the lynching of two Negroes here December 10.

Macon, Ga

S. M. Austin, attorney for the administrators of the estates of George Banks and Tom Jackson, the Negroes, said a suit would be filed in circuit court immediately. Prosecuting Attorney James H. White said the county would contest the suit. The court made no comment in refusing payment.

2-4-32

Jackson and Banks were taken from the county jail here by a mob of armed men, hanged to a telephone pole and several hundred shots were fired at them. They had been awaiting trial for the slaying of Constable Joseph Myles and Jack Brown at Leslie.

CHARLESTON, W. VA
MAIL

JAN 21 1932

GRAND JURY BEGINS PROBE OF LYNCHING

Indictment of All Believed Implicated Asked by Greenbrier Judge

MOB'S ACT ASSAILED

Court Also Says That Officers Must Not Mistreat Prisoners

LEWISBURG, Jan. 21 (AP).—An investigation of the lynching of two Negroes here December 10 was begun today by the Greenbrier county grand jury.

The grand jury retired to pursue its inquiry after being instructed by Judge Summers H. Sharp to indict "any and all persons" it believed should be indicted for the crime which he described as "shocking in its details and stigmatizing the citizenship of a county that is known far and wide for its culture and the fine character of its people".

Four Men Held

The grand jury convened on the same day that had been set for the trial of the two Negroes, Tom Jackson and George Banks, who were taken from the county jail by a mob of several score masked and heavily armed men, hanged to the cross arms of a telephone pole on the outskirts of the village and their bodies peppered with bullets. The Negroes were awaiting trial on a charge of murdering Constable Joseph H. Myles and Jack Brown, a companion, who were killed at Leslie near Rainelle when they tried to quiet revelry at a Negro dance.

Four men, three of them brothers, have been held in jail without bond for several weeks upon charges of murder in the lynching case. They are Earl, Pete and Jack Legg, of Quinwood, and X. Y. McClung, of near Rainelle. A fifth man was arrested during the investigation but was released.

Judge Sharp in his charge detailed the arrest of the Negroes for a crime which he said "deserved the severest lawful punishment" and their indictment for murder by a special grand jury. Upon their arraignment, he said, counsel for the Negroes moved the trial date be fixed sufficiently far ahead to permit preparation of their case.

Assails Mob Action

Concerning the lynching, Judge Sharp said, "this mob was not the spontaneous uprising of an outraged and indignant citizenry but it bears evidence of being a deliberately planned and secretly organized mob not for the purpose of administering orderly justice but rather for the wreaking of vengeance upon its victims. No citizen can, under any pretext justify, nor can he, with reason, defend the acts of the mob."

Without referring to reports of alleged mistreatment by officers of some of the men arrested in the lynching case, the judge told the grand jurors "there are bounds beyond which an officer should not go in the discharge of his lawful duties. We must insist that the law should be enforced in a lawful manner. No officer who is clothed with the duty and power of arrest should mistreat anyone taken into his custody."

Upon inquiry, Judge Sharp said informally that he included that instruction in his charge because of reports that some of the men held in the lynching case had been mistreated.

CLARKSBURG, W. VA
EXPONENT

FEB 3 1932

GREENBRIER COURT REFUSES TO SETTLE LYNCHING CLAIM

LEWISBURG, Feb. 2. (AP)—The Greenbrier county court refused today to pay a bill for $10,000 presented as a result of the lynching of two negroes here December 10.

S. M. Austin, attorney for the administrators of the estates of George Banks and Tom Jackson the negroes, said a suit would be filed in circuit court immediately. Prosecuting Attorney James H. White said the county would contest the suit. The court made no comment in refusing payment.

Jackson and Banks were taken from the county jail here by a mob of armed men, hanged to a telephone pole and several hundred shots were fired at them. They had been awaiting trial for the slaying of Constable Joseph Myles and Jack Brown at Leslie.

The state law provides that administrators of estates of lynched persons may collect damages not to exceed $5,000 for each person from the county in which the lynching occurred. White said informally the county would attack the constitutionality of the law.

Four men were held on murder charges after the lynching but were released two weeks ago when the grand jury refused to indict them.

POINT PLEASANT
W. VA.
REGISTER

JAN 23 1932

GREENBRIER JURORS REFUSE TO INDICT 4 IN NEGRO LYNCHINGS

3 LEGG BROTHERS AND McCLUNG ORDERED DISCHARGED BY JUDGE SHARP

RELATIVE OF CONSTABLE CHARGED IN TAMPERING

DR. MYLES SAID TO HAVE PROCURED JURYMEN IN UNLAWFUL MANNER

By LESTER LESLIE
Associated Press Staff Correspondent

LEWISBURG, Jan. 23—(AP)—The Greenbrier county grand jury refused today to return indictments against four men who had been charged with murder in the lynching of two Negroes here December 10.

Upon motion of Prosecuting Attorney James H. White, the four men; Earl, Pete and Jack Legg, brothers, and X. Y. McClung were ordered discharged from custody by Judge Summers H. Sharp.

Physician Charged

An indictment was returned by the grand jury charging Dr. W. E. Myles of White Sulphur Springs, with unlawfully procuring two prospective jurors to be summoned for grand jury duty "with intent that said jurors should be biased in their conduct as such jurors."

Dr. Myles is a brother of Constable Joseph H. Myles, one of the two men for whose slaying Tom Jackson and George Banks, Negroes, were awaiting trial when they were taken from the county jail here by a mob of several score armed men and hanged to the cross arms of a telephone pole.

Probed 3rd Degree

The grand jury also refused to return indictments charging mistreatment by officers of any of the men held in the lynching. White said the grand jury investigated reports of mistreatment of the four men all of whom appeared before it.

Constable Myles and his companion Jack Brown, were slain at Leslie near Rainelle, after they attempted to quiet revelry at a Negro dance. Jackson and Banks were indicted for murder. The indictment against Dr. Myles followed instructions yesterday by Judge Sharp to investigate an incident in filling two vacancies on the grand jury.

NEW YORK
Illustrated News

JAN 24 1932

LYNCH CASE FAILS

Lewisburg, W. Va., Jan. 23 (AP).—The Greenbrier County Grand Jury today refused to indict four men charged with murder in the lynching of two colored men here Dec 10.

New York American

JAN 24 1932

Grand Jury Refuses To Indict in Lynching

LEWISBURG, W. Va., Jan. 23 (AP).—The grand jury today refused to indict four men charged with murder in the lynching of two negroes here Dec. 10.

NEWS

Ronceverte, W. Va

FEB 13 1932

LYNCHING COMPENSATION.

(Wheeling Intelligencer.)

Greenbrier county has determined to contest the constitutionality of the West Virginia law requiring the payment of $5,000 to the estate of any lynched person by the county from the custody of which the victim was taken.

It is well that this law is to be tested. Nor does it seem to this newspaper that the people or the officials of Greenbrier county merit the criticism they have received for the position they have taken. It evidences neither a desire to evade a just obligation nor a spirit of condoning the unlawful execution of two Negroes there last December.

Every reasonable effort should be made to discourage lynching and to punish those guilty of it. The imposition of a $5,000 penalty upon the people of a county from whose jail a prisoner is taken and lynched, however, is neither reasonable nor effective.

That officials happen to be lax or weak, or that five or five hundred people decide to take the law into their own hands is not justification for the penalizing of the taxpayers of an entire county. The persons responsible for the crime and only those responsible should be punished for it. Yet ander the law of West Virginia a mob from Nicholas, or Fayette, or Monroe county might invade Greenbrier, take a prisoner from Greenbrier officials by force, lynch him there or carry him to some other county and there commit the crime, and Greenbrier county citizens would be forced to pay $5,000 penalty.—Wheeling Intelligencer.

FAIRMONT, W. VA.
WEST VIRGINIAN

JAN 23 1932

NO INDICTMENTS FOR FOUR HELD FOR LYNCHING

But Man Who Tried To Tamper With Grand Jury Must Stand Trial

PRISONERS ARE ALL PROMPTLY RELEASED

Judge Characterizes Lynching As A Deliberately Planned Affair

BY LESTER LESLIE
Associated Press Staff Writer

LEWISBURG, W. Va., Jan. 23 (By the Associated Press). — The Greenbrier County grand jury refused today to return indictments against four men who had been charged with murder in the lynching of two negroes here December 10.

Upon motion of Prosecuting Attorney James H. White the four men, Earl, Pete and Jack Legg, brothers, and X. Y. McClung, were ordered discharged from custody by Judge Summers H. Sharp.

"Under the circumstances," White said, "I feel I should ask the court to discharge these men from custody. I did all I could do but since the grand jury did not see fit to indict I do not want to keep these men in jail, and therefore move for their discharge."

An indictment was returned by the grand jury charging Dr. W. E. Myles, of White Sulphur Springs, with unlawfully procuring two prospective jurors to be summoned for grand jury duty "with intent that said jurors should be biased in their conduct as such jurors."

Dr. Myles is a brother of constable Joseph H. Myles, one of two men for whose slaying Tom Jackson and George Banks, negroes, were awaiting trial when they were taken from the county jail here by a mob of several score armed men and hanged to the cross arms of a telephone pole.

The grand jury also refused to return indictments charging mistreatment by officers of any of the men held in the lynching. White said the grand jury investigated reports of mistreatment of the four men, all of whom appeared before it, but it did not act.

Constable Myles and his companion Jack Brown were slain at Leslie, near Rainelle, after they attempted to quiet revelry at a negro dance. Jackson and Banks were indicted for murder but their trials were postponed to January 21. On the night of December 10 jailers were forced to turn them over to the mob which hanged them to the telephone pole and fired several hundred shots into their bodies. Five men later were arrested in the lynching but one was released.

The indictment against Dr. Myles followed instructions yesterday by Judge Sharp to investigate an incident in filling two vacancies on the grand jury. Two special jury commissioners submitted two names which they admitted had been suggested to them. The judge refused to accept them and two others were submitted. Saying he did not know if anything was wrong with the incident, Sharp said he wished it investigated adding "we must keep our juries pure." The maximum penalty under the indictment is $500 fine.

In his charge to the grand jury when it convened Sharp described the lynching as "shocking in its details and stigmatizing the citizenship of the county." The mob, he said, "was not the spontaneous uprising of an outranged and indignant citizenry but its bears evidence of being a deliberately planned and secretly organized mob, not for the purpose of administering orderly justice but rather for the wreaking of vengeance upon its victims."

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ue W. Va. County for Lynching Damages

Afro-American

CHARLESTON, W. Va. —Suit has een filed in the Kanawha Circuit Court by the widow of the late Thomas Jackson and the sister of George Banks to obtain payments of the $5,000 each due from Greenbrier county as damages for lynching as provided in the state anti-lynching law.

1/27/32

N.A.A.C.P. BACK OF $5,000 SUITS IN GREENBRIER CO. TRAGEDY

Courier

3-12-32

Pittsburgh Pa.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Mar. 10— T. G. Nutter, president of the Charleston, W. Va. branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, today stated that suits to recover $5,000 from the County Court of Greenbrier for the lynching of two colored men in Dec., 1931, was being vigorously pressed. Mr. Nutter said:

"The suit was filed by the administrators of the estates of Jackson and Banks (the two mob victims) for $5,000 each in the circuit court of Kanawha County, W. Va., against the county court of Greenbrier County. It was brought under the Capehart Anti-Lynching Law, which provides that a county in which a lynching occurs shall forfeit $5,000 and the same may be recovered by the administrator of the estate of the deceased in any circuit court.

"The county court refused to pay the amount provided by law, although it did admit that the law provided that payment should be made in each case to the amount of $5,000. They informed us when we presented the bill that the Taxpayers Association had requested them not to pay it. The prosecuting attorney of Greenbrier County instructed the county court not to pay the bill on the ground that the law was unconstitutional.

"There are five attorneys working on the case, D. L. Saulsbury, J. M. Ellis, Sam Lopinsky, Mr. Austin of Greenbrier County and myself. I think the cases will come up at the next term of the circuit court, which will be the second Monday in May. We are still pushing the criminal side of the matter and are hoping to have the cases re-submitted at the next term of the Greenbrier criminal court."

Collect . . . Va. Lynch Bill

[illegible]

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — T. G. Nutter, president of the local branch N.A.A.C.P., states that suits to recover $5,000 from Greenbrier County for the lynching of two colored men last December, are being vigorously pressed.

Suit was filed by relatives of the v ims, Jackson and Banks under the Capehart Anti-Lynching Law which provides that a county in which a lynching occurs, shall forfeit $5,000. County officials, it is said, have refused to pay the money.

1/13/32

CONTINUE FIGHT AGAINST KILLERS

Charleston Branch of N. A. A. C. P. Also Demands County Pay Damages

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Mar. 7 (ANP).—Although the Grand Jury of Greenbrier county has refused to return indictments against the alleged lynchers of Tom Jackson and George Banks, T. G. Nutter, president of the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, stated this week that a plan to obtain indictments is still being followed and that there are chances for success.

[illegible]

New York

On the civil side, suits have been filed for $10,000 damages due the estates of the lynched men. The County Court of Greenbier County has refused to pay this money, due under the Capehart law, but Mr. Nutter declares that the claim will be fought.

Shortly after the men were taken from jail and lynched, three white brothers, Earl Legg, Pete Legg and Jack Legg, were arrested and held, but the Grand Jury declined to indict them.

West Virginia Lynching Suit To Be Heard In Jan.

Journal and Guide

CHARLESTON, W. Va. — The Greenbrier County Lynchburg case in which a relative of a lynched colored man is suing the county for damages, will be heard at the January term of the Kanawha County Circuit Court.

11-26-32

T. G. Nutter as attorney in the case, won a decision from the State Supreme Court reversing the Circuit Court, which had held that the suit could be brought only in a court of the county in which the lynching had occurred.

Norfolk Va.

The suit is brought by Thelma Mullens as administratrix of the estate of George Banks, who was removed from the county jail on December 10, 1931, and put to death by a mob.

Big Lynch Case Won

IN W. VA.—COUNTY MUST PAY WIDOW OF VICTIM

Charleston. W. Va., Oct. 20, 1932— Attorney T. Gills Nutter has won another signal victory for his race in the Greenbrier county lynching case. It will be recalled that some months ago a mob took two colored men, accused of murder, from the Greenbrier County jail and lynched them. The Anti-Lynching statue of West Virginia provides that any county in which a prisoner is lynched shall pay to the relatives of the victim the sum of $5,000, recoverable by action in any court of the state. Suit was instituted in the Kanawha county court by Thelma Mullens, administratrix of George Banks, one of the mob victims, against Greenbrier County.

Oct 22 32

The court ruled against the estate on the grounds of lack of jurisdiction holding that action should be brought in the county which the crime was perpetrated.

Upon appeal to the State Supreme Court the case was reversed and remanded, sustaining the contention of counsel that under the Act action may be brought in any court of jurisdicti in the state.

Lynchings-1932

Legislation relating to.

3765

WASHINGTON, D. C.
STAR

JAN 1 2 1932

Anti-Lynching Law Urged Upon Congress

To the Editor of The Star:

This is the opportune time for the Republican party to introduce either a new measure or to revive one or the other of the pending anti-lynching bills. The House minority should force an anti-lynching vote and test the sincerity of Northern Democratic Representatives and Senators, many of whom have received and are seeking the recently much-talked-of non-partisan colored vote.

The Republican party should not lose this golden opportunity, since it has a small majority in the Senate and is in control of the executive and judicial branches of the Government. With the Democratic party in control of the House by five votes, due to Northern Democrats who expect to receive a large colored vote in the next general election, this is the psychological moment for the Republicans to put the Democrats on record by forcing anti-lynching legislation.

For those who contemplated introducing and urging the passage of an anti-lynching bill to forego it at this time, although it should have been brought up in the last Congress, simply because the Democrats have a small majority in the House, will be an unpardonable mistake, as the Republicans in the House, with a few Northern Democrats, are sufficient to pass anti-lynching legislation.

The constitutionality of anti-lynching legislation is a matter for subsequent consideration. While there may be strong arguments against this legislation on States' rights grounds, there are much stronger arguments in its favor on Federal grounds. Undoubtedly, Federal anti-lynching legislation will be declared constitutional if the bill is properly drawn so that it will stand the acid test of the courts, as the subject matter is primarily Federal and secondarily State. H. A. CLARKE.

Journal and Guide

SEEK TO PUT ANTI-LYNCHING BILL THROUGH LEGISLATURE

NASHVILLE, Tenn—The Tennessee Interracial Commission, at its annual session here, pledged renewed efforts for an effective anti-lynching law in this state and expressed itself as hopeful of success.

Such a bill, it was stated, was drafted and sponsored by the commission in the last legislature and appeared certain of enactment until a big financial crash involved millions of state funds and blocked all further constructive legislation.

The commission announced also a number of other immediate objectives, including better opportunities for the training of Negro physicians and nurses, and better provisions for the care of dependents, defectives and delinquents. 2-6-32

The tuberculosis death rate of Negro children in Tennessee is ten times that of white children, the commission was told, and the T. B. death rate of the entire Negro group three times as high as that of the white. Norfolk Va.

At the same time it was pointed out that tuberculosis is not hereditary, the under similar conditions Negroes are no more subject to it than other people, and that most of its great destruction of life could be prevented if proper conditions were provided and proper care taken.

Dr. Bent of Meharry Medical College emphasized the importance of utilizing all available public health services in fighting this and other diseases from which Negroes suffer heavily.

The interracial work in Tennessee is directed by J. D. Burton, with the active cooperation of Robert E. Clay, state agent for Rosenwald Schools. The chairman is Dr. James E. Clarke, editor of the Presbyterian Advance, and the secretary is Dr. J. A. Lester, of Meharry Medical College.

DYER ANTI-LYNCH BILL VIEWED AS AID TO LYNCHERS

Afro American 7/16/32

NEW YORK—Formation of defense corps composed of white and Negro workers for the protection of the latter against lynchers at the cost of their lives, is advocated by Miss Elizabeth Lawson, white, in the Daily Worker, as the surest means of combating the barbarous practice in the United States.

Not only must militant whites unite with a similar group of Negroes the writer declares, but they must take the lead in such a defense. "We are not revolutionists," says Miss Lawson, "unless we accept and put into practice the idea that it is the special class duty of revolutionary white workers to defend Negro workers against lynching and mob violence even at the cost of our own lives.

"As revolutionists, we must in all our propaganda, expose the lynching of Negroes as a weapon of the American imperialists in the national oppression of the Negroes. In our fight on lynching, therefore, we must never fail to link up this fight with the srtuggle against national oppression, and to raise the demands: withdrawal of the armed forces of American imperialism from the black belt; the right of the Negroes in the black belt to govern that territory, including the minority residing there."

Dyer Bill Aid to Lynchers

The Dyer anti-lynching bill, even if passed, Miss Lawson believes, would only prove to be a weapon in the hands of the lynchers. Citing the lynching of Matthews Williams at Salisbury, Md., last December, and the subsequent whitewash of the case, Miss Lawson says:

"The fakers, by promoting the Dyer bill as a means of stopping lynching, are urging the Negro workers and farmers to place their reliance for protection against the boss lynchers in the machinery of the bosses' state. Yet, this very state machinery is an instrument in the hands of the lynchers. Where police, sheriffs and other state officials are not actually part and parcel of the mob they combine to protect and whitewash the lynchers."

West Virginia Cited

The writer cites a further instance by referring to the lynching of two men in Greenbrier County, W.Va. which state has an anti-lynching law providing for the payment of a sum of money to the families of the victims. The administrators of the estates of the two lynched men filed suit for $5,000 each against the Greenbrier County court, but the court refused to pay the amount.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.
STAR

AUG 3 1932

LYNCHING BILL PASSED.

With just enough votes, the bill repealing that part of the antilynching law making the county liable for damages to persons or property in lynching or mob action, passed the Indiana Senate yesterday. It now goes to the House. The vote was 26-15.

Slight discussion of troubles of the past in the coal fields of the state preceded the roll call. Senator William P. Denningan of Vincennes, Democrat, supported the repeal measure, declaring officers of Knox and Sullivan counties could not have prevented disturbances there recently.

ANTI-LYNCHING LEGISLATION

(From Birmingham Age-Herald)

Reporter 9-10-32 Birmingham Ala

In 1928, the General Assembly of Virginia enacted an anti-lynching law, which fixed responsibility upon local authorities through the device of holding the county liable in the sum of $2,500 to representatives of the person lynched. Any county wishing to recover this payment was given the right to proceed collectively or individually against persons composing the mob. Since 1928, Virginia has had no lynching.

This plan has been adopted in other states with the best results. In lieu of a strong governor like Cameron Morrison, of North Carolina, who made a point of ordering out the militia by way of anticipating trouble or of some such drastic treatment of the evil as was administered in Georgia in 1926, when Judge Reed sentenced a mob leader to life imprisonment, legislation with teeth sharp enough to grind out lynching would seem to be the only way of preventing ultimate federal interference.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.
AGE-HERALD

SEP 7 1932

Anti-Lynching Legislation

In 1928, the General Assembly of Virginia enacted an anti-lynching law, which fixed responsibility upon local authorities through the device of holding the county liable in the sum of $2,500 to representatives of the person lynched. Any county wishing to recover this payment was given the right to proceed collectively or individually against persons composing the mob. Since 1928, Virginia has had no lynching.

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3765

DANGEROUS LEGISLATION

Recorder
8-20-32

Indianapolis, Indiana

Passage by the Indiana Senate of the Drake amendment to the States' anti-lynching law is to be regretted. As a result, the commonwealth is on the brink of a dangerous precipice. Singing of the bill by Governor Leslie, will reduce Indiana to the despisable status of an outright lynch state.

It is to be hoped that the state's executive will ponder well the act, before he commits his signature to the lynch law in its present amended form.

Shorne of teeth sufficiently sharp enough to drive irresponsible mob murderers out of the state, we see no earthly use of having any law at all; that is one having to do directly with the vitally important question of protecting the lives of tax payers against a recurrence of the memorable Grant county court house lawn disgrace. A product of a spirit of unpardonable selfishness the Drake amendment is plainly a traversty on justice. As such it is wrong and we believe, un-American constitutional. In the interest of the well-being of decent citizens be denied a place in the statute records of the great state of Indiana. With the state's only effective weapon against mob rule gone there will be nothing with which to strike fear into the ranks of ruffians bent upon taking advantage of the opening to vent their savage spleens on defenseless citizens. Lynchers, especially professional ones, are likely to take on new inspiration and redouble their activities in disturbance creating; drink to their hearts' content of the blood of unsuspecting victims on the campus of lynch law, and mob rule.

If the governor signs the bill, lynchers, to avoid trouble with the state would have to do just one simple thing: lay off taking their victims from Sheriffs. Of course that will be easy enough, a fact thoroughly known to the average lyncher who glories in stringing up people and shooting their bodies full of holes.

We call these facts to your notice Governor, in the hope that you may give the Drake amendment your very serious consideration before inaugurating into a law of the state of Indiana with your signature.

Lynchings - 1932
N. A. A. C. P.

Brunswick, Ga. News
Sunday, January 1, 1933

LYNCHINGS ON THE DECREASE

Lynchings for 1932 showed a decrease of 22 per cent throughout the nation, only one occurring in Georgia. The totla number for 1932 was 11, while in 1931 there were 14 in all states.

Lynchings are becoming isolated and frowned upon by law abiding people. Only in cases or rape or attempted rape do lynchings occur in the south. While a number of lynchings for this crime have been averted, it is one crime that arouses the best senses of the people and causes them to forget their duty as lawrespecting citizens. However, the reduction in the number of lynchings is due more to the fact that the crime of rape has been on the decrease. So long as such brutal crimes are committed, so long will there be lynchings committed.

The action of the federal courts in granting new trials for the young negroes who outraged two helpless young white girls in Scottsboro, Alabama, three years ago, was, indeed, unfortunate. The negroes were proved to be guilty of the crimes for which they were tried, yet under a technicality of the law, new trials were granted on the grounds that their trials were held under circumstances of coercion on account of the militia being ordered out by the governor of Alabama, in an effort to preserve order and to protect the negro criminals. The result of the new trial will be watched with much interest not only in the part of the law abiding people of Alabama, but by those who are employing lawyers to defend the rapists.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has announced the following lynchings for the year 1932, which is alleged to be the official list for the year.

"Aged negro, February, body found in pond, Brooksville, Fla.; David Tillus, April 1, Crockett, Texas; Richard Read (white), April 13, St. Francis, Kan.; Walter Merrick (White) May 31, Princeton, Ky.; Luke Marion, June 7, Ironton, Ohio; "Henry Woods, June 7, Jasper, Fla.; Henry Russell, August 29, Newton, Ga.; Frank Tucker, September 16, Crossett, Ark.; Shadrock Thompson, September 16, Warrentown, Va.; Henry Campbell House, November 19, Wisner, Louisiana."

The abatement of the crime of rape by the negro race will eventually eliminate lynchings and mob violence, not only in the southern states, but in all states of the nation.—Athens Banner-Herald.

Inaccurate Reports on Lynchings

1-7-33
Balti. Md.

Tuskegee reports eight lynchings in 1932. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and the Associated Negro Press each catalogues 11, and the Communist press details 35 cases of mob violence.

For the purposes of the record, says the Associated Negro Press report, "there is no settled rule for defining a lynching, or even a mob. Three persons (the number was seven) were shot down by a mob (posse) seeking a fugitive at Senatobia, Mississippi. Were they lynched? The Associated Negro Press does not include them in its totals."

However, the Associated Negro Press does include as lynchings four other individual cases where men were shot down by posses deputized to capture them.

The Communists, we think, very probably include all killings of defenseless persons by posses as lynchings. In fact, this is the South's new method of mob violence. Mobs which formerly hunted and killed Negroes accused of offences, grave or trivial, now have themselves first sworn in as deputy sheriffs. Then they calmly proceed as "officers of the law" to perpetrate the violence and murder which they were accustomed to do illegally.

Lynching by officers of the law is no less lynching, say the Reds, and we agree with them when they include in their list seven persons (a man, wife, three sons, and two daughters) thus slaughtered in the Senatobia massacre.

The N.A.A.C.P. list includes three lynchings which the Associated Negro Press does not mention, and the press list has three lynchings which the N.A.A.C.P. does not mention.

Here is conclusive proof that had these two agencies collaborated, their conclusion would be that 17 lynchings, instead of 11, represent the 1932 total.

The Communist report lists 29 cases of mob violence which are not in the Tuskegee statement, and adds its belief that, without question, an enormous number of lynchings occurred in 1932, which have not come to light, —knowledge of which has been carefully suppressed.

There is a righteous complaint that officials from coroners' juries to state governors carefully *"whitewash"* lynchings in order to keep down public clamor.

Communists note seven instances of quiet lynchings, including one in Virginia, which were not made public until some time after the crime.

There is a question of whether the eight firemen murdered by organized gangs on Southern railroads should be included in the lynching totals for the year.

Inasmuch as this mob of white outlaws is organized for the purpose of murdering all Negro firemen on Southern railroads, why shouldn't it be termed lynching?

James Weldon Johnson, once secretary of the N.A.A.C.P., testifying before a Senate Committee in 1926, defined lynching as all cases "where a mob takes justice in its own hands instead of leaving such matters to the courts."

Mr. Johnson and Webster's dictionary, would, therefore, *exclude* the killing of the railway firemen, but would certainly *include* the killing of the family of seven at Senatobia, Mississippi.

N.A.A.C.P. figures note 83 persons lynched in 1919; 65 in 1920; 64 in 1921; 61 in 1922; 28 in 1923, and 21 in 1930.

Coincident with this decline in lynching has grown up a tendency of various organizations first to issue an annual official list of lynchings and then to determine their own definition of what lynching is.

The result is ludicrous. Four organizations this year, all interested in seeing lynching abolished, issued official statements showing the 1932 cases of mob violence, and one of them lists as many as 37, and another of them as few as 8. The two remaining fix 11 as the proper number, but each list contains three cases not reported by the other.

This silly and intolerable situation will continue until these organizations cease setting themselves as official arbiters of this question and begin to co-operate in issuing their annual statements.

The conclusion of any intelligent person under the present circumstances is that all four lynching reports are inaccurate and unreliable.

Spartanburg, S. C. Herald
Saturday, December 31, 1932

The Record Improves

Accepting a report from a society for the advancement of the negro race as accurate, The Herald used the figures yesterday as showing the improvement in the South so far as lynchings are concerned.

According to the annual report on lynchings sent out by Tuskegee Institute, the showing is better than the one we quoted. Instead of 11 lynchings as reported in the New York dispatch the Tuskegee report shows only eight persons were lynched in the United States in 1932, the lowest number since the institute began compiling these statistics in 1885. The New York report charged one lynching against South Carolina in 1932. The Tuskegee report acquits the state of the charge and gives it a clean slate for the present year. Of the eight persons killed by mobs two were whites and six were negroes. The lynchings by states follow: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; Virginia, 1.

The most encouraging part of the Tuskegee report is that which says: "There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern and western states and 27 in southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed, the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In seven other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, seven white men and 35 negroes—33 men and two women—were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs."

Thus, 1932 closes with the lowest record for lynchings in the history of the country. In all the South but six persons were killed by mobs and the paragraph quoted shows the growth of anti-lynching sentiment in the southern states.

Macon, Ga. Telegraph
Wednesday, December 28, 1932

ELEVEN LYNCHED, SOCIETY REPORTS

One of 1932 Mob Executions Took Place in Georgia, Walter White's Data Show

NEW YORK Dec. 27 (AP)—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced Tuesday that its records disclosed reports of 11 lynchings in 1932, compared with 14 in 1931. Two of those named were white, the remainder Negroes.

The lynchings in their chronological order, as listed by the association, follow:

Aged Negro, February, body found in pond, Brooksville, Fla.

David Tillus, April 1, Crockett Texas.

Richard Read (white), April 13, St. Francis, Kan.

Walter Merrick (white), May 31, Princeton, Ky.

Luke Marion, June 7, Ironton, Ohio.

Henry Woods, June 7, Jasper, Fla.

Henry Russell, Aug. 29, Newton, Ga.

Frank Tucker, Sept. 16, Grossett, Ark.

Shadrock Thompson, Sept. 16, Warrenton, Va.

Henry Campbell, November, Mullins, S. C.

Williams House, Nov. 19, Wisner, La.

"Satisfaction at this slight progress," said Walter White, secretary of the association, "must be tempered by the knowledge that quasi-legal lynchings, shootings by members of posses, hasty court trials with results virtually dictated by mobs, as in Scottsboro, Ala., are little if any better than open and unashamed mob murder.

"The lynching spirit remains the focal problem of law enforcement in America."

Woodville, Miss. Republican
Saturday, December 31, 1932

The National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People has issued a report showing that its recently compiled records disclose the fact that there were 11 lynchings in 1932 as compared to 13 during the previous year. Of these, nine were colored and two whites.

Athens, Ga. [illegible]
Friday, December 30, 1932

LYNCHINGS ON THE DECREASE

Lynchings for 1932 showed a decrease of 22 per cent throughout the nation, only one occurring in Georgia. The total number for 1932 was 11, while in 1931 there were 14 in all states.

Lynchings are becoming isolated and frowned upon by law abiding people. Only in cases of rape or attempted rape do lynching occur in the south. While a number of lynchings for this crime have been averted, it is one crime that arouses the best senses of the people and causes them to forget their duty as law respecting citizens. However, the reduction in the number of lynchings is due more to the fact that the crime of rape has been on the decrease. So long as such brutal crimes are committed, so long will there be lynchings committed.

The action of the federal courts in granting new trials for the young negroes who outraged two helpless young white girls in Scottsboro, Alabama, three years ago, was, indeed, unfortunate. The negroes were proved to be guilty and on their own admission, they were guilty of the crimes for which they were tried, yet under a technicality of the law, new trials were granted on the grounds that their trials were held under circumstances of coercion on account of the militia being ordered out by the governor of Alabama, in an effort to preserve order and to protect the negro criminals. The result of the new trial will be watched with much interest not only on the part of the law abiding people of Alabama, but by those who are employing lawyers to defend the rapists.

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"Henry Woods, June 7, Jasper, Fla.; Henry Russell, August 29, Newton, Ga.; Frank Tucker, September 16, Crossett, Ark.; Shadrock Thompson, September 16, Warrentown, Va.: Henry Campbell, November, Mullins, S. C.; William House, November 19, Wisner, Louisiana."

The abatement of the crime of rape by the negro race will eventually eliminate lynchings and mob violence, not only in the Southern states, but in all states of the nation.

Spartanburg, S. C., Herald
Wednesday, December 28, 1932

YEAR'S LYNCHING TOTAL DECREASES

Negro Organization Lists 11 Illegal Events in Various Sections

New York, Dec. 27 (AP).—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced today that its records disclosed reports of 11 lynchings in 1932, compared with 14 in 1931. Two of those named were white, the remainder negroes.

The lynchings in their chronological order, as listed by the association, follow:

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"Satisfaction at this slight progress," said Walter White, secretary of the association, "must be tempered by the knowledge that quasi-legal lynchings, shootings by members of posses, hasty court trials with results virtually dictated by mobs, as in Scottsboro, Ala., are little if any better than open and unashamed mob murder.

"The lynching spirit remains the focal problem of law enforcement in America."

REPORT IS DENIED

Warrenton, Va., Dec. 27 (AP).—Fauquier County law enforcement officers tonight denied there had been a lynching within the county during 1932 as reported by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Commonwealth's Attorney C. W. Carter and Sheriff W. S. Woolf joined in criticising the reported lynching of Saddock Thompson, Warrenton negro. They said all evidence pointed to suicide in the Thompson case.

Carter said that both the coroner's jury and the grand jury had returned suicide verdicts, and added that the rope from which the negro was found hanging was known to have been in his possession previously.

Sheriff Woolf said "it was an absolute case of suicide."

Thompson had been hunted for several weeks on a charge of criminally assaulting a woman after first attacking her husband.

Wilmington, N. C. News [illegible]
Thursday, December 29, 1932

LYNCHINGS DECREASE

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, always interested in the number of lynchings in which members of their race are victims, should find encouragement in the survey for 1932, which has just been released.

Of the eleven lynchings reported, a decrease over the fourteen mob slayings reported in 1931, only nine Negroes were victims of the noose. In one of these cases official records show the victim to be a suicide rather than having been killed by the angry mob.

It is heartening to this newspaper to note the decrease in mob violence. It should not exist. Those found guilty of perpetrating crimes of this nature are just as guilty of wrong-doing as those whom they execute for crimes against society.

Courts are provided for those who run afoul of the law, and those who organize mobs, should pay more attention to this phase and less to their policy of meting out justice as they view it.

There is but one justice for all—the courts—and no mob can function in its capacity.

ENCOURAGED ON LYNCHINGS

Boston [illegible]

1-7-32

Boston, Mass

(Boston American, Jan. 3, 193[illegible] hopeful sign of better race relations in the South is afforded by the decrease in lynchings this year as compared with last.

According to figures from the New York headquarters of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People there were eleven lynchings in 1932, whereas in 1931 there were fourteen. Two of the persons lynched this year, moreover, were whites.

Lynching is not confined exclusively to the South, one of the 1932 cases being in Ohio. And, considering the North's record for murder and assassination, it is perhaps not too much to conclude that "lynch law," once among the most sinister types of crime, is becoming a relatively minor matter. The impromptu executions of gangsters in the great Northern cities make most parts of the South look like Sunday school communities by contrast.

New York Evening Journal
DEC 30 1932

Fewer Lynchings

An Encouraging Sign.

Copyright, 1932, New York Evening Journal, Inc. Registered, U. S. Patent Office.

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Lynchings-1932.

N.A.A.C.P.

Carlisle, Ky., Mercury
Thursday, December 22, 1932

11 MEN LYNCHED IN 1932

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced Tuesday that its records disclosed reports of 11 lynchings in 1932, compared with 14 in 1931. Two of those named were white, the remainder negroes. The lynchings included that of Walter Merrick, a white man, who was lynched May 31 at Princeton, Ky.

Greensboro, N. C., [illegible]
Wednesday, December 28, 1932

11 Lynchings Are Reported Throughout Nation In 1932

New York, Dec. 27.—(AP)—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced today that its records disclosed reports of 11 lynchings in 1932, compared with 14 in 1931. Two of those named were white, the remainder negroes.

"Satisfaction at this progress," said Walter White, secretary of the association, "must be tempered by the knowledge that quasi-legal lynchings, shootings by members of posses, hasty court trials with results virtually dictated by mobs, as in Scottsboro, Ala., are little if any better than open and unashamed mob murder.

"The lynching spirit remains the focal problem of law enforcement in America."

3766

Lynchings – 1932
&
N.A.A.C.P., Reports on.

VICKSBURG, MISS.
POST

JAN 2 - 1933

Decline In Lynchings

A DECLINE of 22 per cent in lynchings in 1932 is noted in a report issued by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The association said its records showed 11 lynchings this year as compared with 14 the previous year. Two of those named were white.

Lynchings as listed by the association included: Frank Tucker, Sept. 16, Crossett. Ark., and William House, November 19, Wisner, La.

Walter White, secretary of the association, said: "Satisfaction at this slight progress must be tempered by the knowledge that quasilegal lynchings shootings by members of posses, hasty court trials with results virtually dictated by mobs, are little if any better than open and unmasked mob murder."

WOONSOCKET, R. I.
CALL

JAN 7 - 1933

Less Lynching

Nine Negroes were lynched last year, according to the figures from the Association for the Advancement of Colored People; the association notes that two whites also were lynched. That makes eleven in all which is three less than the total for 1931. The diminution is a good sign in a presidential year; for in some past presidential years, either owing to political excitement or to the need to promote it, lynchings have been above the prevailing level.

No doubt a number of influences have combined to discourage the lynching habit. One of them has been the removal of Negroes from sections where they found conditions oppressive to industrial sections where they were welcome. That has ceased since the decline in the demand for workers. Yet it lasted long enough to persuade whites in some of the sections with large colored populations that the whites would themselves lose if the Negroes were driven away.

The education of Negroes has done something to protect them; the education of poor whites perhaps quite as much. Among the influences not to be overlooked has been the absence of serious race riots between whites and clored folk. Race riots are little else than wholesale lynchings. They became unpopular after the Negroes in one or two instances had taken to carrying the shooting into white streets. The race-rioting custom has declined and the rural districts take their example more or less from the towns.

More might have been done by authority and by public opinion to put an end to lynching. As matters go, it seems quite likely to die down of itself, chiefly or largely because the colored people have become better able to take care of themselves. — Brooklyn Eagle.

GREENWOOD, MISS
COMMONWEALTH

JAN 3 - 1933

DECLINE IN LYNCHINGS

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MACON, GA
TELEGRAPH

JAN 12 1933

LESS LYNCHING

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PHILADELPHIA, PA.
RECORD

JAN 13 1933

Legal Lynchings

An amazing development with respect to lynchings in the South is reported by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

It seems that the South is becoming ashamed of lynchings. As a result, in numerous cases, when a lynching seems about to occur, the local sheriff will deputize the mob so that it becomes a legal posse, acting with legal authority. The victim is killed just as dead as if there were no deputization, and without accusation or trial, but a faint legal mist is thrown over the affair, preventing it from being classed as outright mob murder.

Thus the number of entirely illegal lynchings dropped from 14 in 1931 to 11 in 1932. But the total number of mob murders is indefinite. The N. A. A. C. P. will hereafter be forced to list the number of Negroes killed by posses to arrive at a true picture.

Thursday, January 12, 1933

LESS LYNCHING

Nine Negroes were lynched this year, according to the figures from the Association for the Advancement of Colored People; the association notes that two whites also were lynched. That makes eleven in all, which is three less than the total for 1931. The diminution is a good sign in a presidential year; for in some past presidential years, either owing to political excitement or to the need to promote it, lynchings have been above the prevailing level.

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Lynchings-1932
N.A.A.C.P., Reports on.

3767

DECLINE NOTED IN LYNCHINGS

Courier 12-31-32

NEW YORK, Dec. 29—A record of 11 reported lynchings for the year 1932 represents a decline of three from the 14 reported in 1931, according to statistics made public today by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue.

Only one state, Florida, had two lynchings during the year. The other states which each had one lynching are Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia

Two of the victims of lynching mobs were white, the remainder Negroes. Among offenses charged to the mob victims were: Quarrel with employer who formed the lynching mob; murder; stealing a $1 bill and wounding deputy sheriff; quarrel over pay, resulting in shooting; dynamiting store; insulting white women.

In all cases the mob either hanged or shot its victim, the body being subsequently burned in the case of Henry Woods, lynched at Jasper, Fla.

In making public the figures Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said:

"Reported lynchings are three less this year than in 1931. But satisfaction at this slight progress must be tempered by the knowledge that quasi-legal lynchings, shootings by members of posses, hasty court trials with results virtually dictated by mobs, as in Scottsboro, Ala., are little if any better than open and unashamed mob murder. The lynching spirit remains the focal problem of law enforcement in America."

The lynchings in their chronological order, as listed by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, are:

1—Aged Negro. February. Body found in pond, Brooksville, Fla.

2—David Tillus, April 1. Crockett, Tex.

3—Richard Read (white), April 13, St. Francis, Kan.

4—Walter Merrick (white), May 31, Princeton, Ky.

5—Luke Marion, June 7, Ironton, Ohio.

6—Henry Woods, June 7, Jasper, Fla.

7—Henry Russell, August 29, at Newton, Ga.

8—Frank Tucker, September 16, Crossett, Ark.

9—Shadrock Thompson, September 16, Warenton, Va.

10—Henry Campbell, November, Mullins, S. C.

11—Williams House, November 19, Wisner, La.

PHILADELPHIA, PA
BULLETIN

DEC 29 1932

Lynching's Decrease

ELEVEN lynchings in the United States in 1931, according to the records kept by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, are eleven too many, but there is some degree of satisfaction to be derived from the fact that the number reported thus far this year is three less than the total last year. Still more encouraging is the fact that the entire decade, beginning with 1923, shows a remarkable decrease from the preceding decade in which in one year, 1919, lynchings reached a total of eighty-three while the minimum number in that decade in any year was thirty-eight. There was a sharp drop from fifty-seven in 1922 to thirty-three in the first year of the decade now ending, and, though the downward movement has not been uninterrupted, the record as a whole shows progress.

Of the victims listed this year two were white. Although lynchings have been confined to no section, the chief offender has been the South, and the improvement noted must be credited in a considerable degree to the efforts of leaders in that section to arouse the conscience of its residents against it. There has been co-operation in that respect by editors, university men, and others of influence in the various States. The women, too have banded together an organization designed to mobilize their influence against the disgrace of mob violence.

NEW HAVEN, CONN.
TIMES

DEC 30 1932

Lynching In 1932.

JUMPING the New Year gun by several days, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has published the list of 1932 lynchings. The total of eleven for this year fast declining towards oblivion is, in itself, a stimulus for unpleasant reflections; but compared with the fourteen total for 1931 it is distinctly encouraging. There remains, however, the reservation, emphasized by Walter White, secretary of the Association, that the above totals represent only authentic lynchings; "quasi-legal lynchings, shootings by members of posses, hasty court trials with results virtually dictated by mobs" scarcely rank above direct mob murder.

Few social commentators could become excited or mournful over the actual number of such deaths. Eleven, even when bulwarked by semi-lynchings, is not very impressive in a country proud of its size, of its records in every conceivable field of activity. This total is for the entire country; concentrated of course in the South, but including such diverse states as Florida and Kansas, Louisiana and Ohio. But almost every community in the United States compiles a greater total of fatalities each year from automobile accidents alone. It is not the actual number which is significant, but the implications of the deeds themselves.

Except for a few excitable individuals who believe in government by emotion rather than reason, no mature citizen justifies lynching. The point scarcely needs to be labored. It is obvious that justice should be attempted through duly constituted authorities, not through mob action. Even when people believe that the judicial or enforcement systems are corrupt, the proper means of pursuit of justice is the reform of the authorized system, not violent, emotional and prejudiced crowd violence. Eleven is, comparatively, a small number; but the United States shall have taken a great step towards true civilization when even that number is eliminated entirely.

SYRACUSE, N. Y.
JOURNAL

DEC 31 1932

Fewer Lynchings

An Encouraging Sign.

Copyright, 1932, Syracuse Newspapers, Inc. Registered, U. S. Patent Office.

A hopeful sign of better race relations in the South is afforded by the decrease in lynchings this year as compared with last.

According to figures from the New York headquarters of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, there were 11 lynchings in 1932, whereas in 1931 there were 14. Two of the persons lynched this year, moreover, were whites.

Lynching is not confined exclusively to the South, one of the 1932 cases being in Ohio. And, considering the North's record for murder and assassination, it is perhaps not too much to conclude that "lynch law," once among the most sinister types of crime, is becoming a relatively minor matter. The impromptu executions of gangsters and of innocent bystanders at the hands of gunmen in the great northern cities make most parts of the South look like Sunday school communities by contrast.

ST. JOSEPH, MO.
GAZETTE

DEC 29 1932

AN ADVANCE FOR JUSTICE.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People reports that its records show there have been eleven lynchings this year, compared with fourteen in 1931. Of the eleven victims, two were white men and the remainder colored.

"Satisfaction at this slight progress," says the secretary of the association, "must be tempered by the knowledge that quasi-legal lynching, shooting by members of posses, hasty court trials with results virtually dictated by mobs . . . are little if any better than open and unashamed mob murder. The lynching spirit remains the focal problem of law enforcement in America."

Comparisons just for two years, of course, do not mean much. Records for a considerably longer time are required to determine the trend. It is gratifying to know that examination of lynching statistics reveals a progressive decline, although the line on the chart has zigzagged sharply in the last twenty or thirty years. Two or more decades, some students of the problem estimate, may see lynching disappear altogether.

Progress in eradicating lynching is slow, for it is linked to a good many factors—education, communication, economics—to which new adjustments are not made in short order. Propaganda, to be effective, must wait on radical social changes. A case in point s that of Southern women, who during the last few years have been conducting campaigns of publicity against lynching. Undoubtedly these campaigns spring from woman's changing status, with its ac-ompanying alteration in social outlook.

DISAGREEMENT ON LYNCHINGS DURING 1932

Call
12-30-32

A. N. P. and N. A. A. C. P. Report 11; League for [illegible] Rights, 37

Kansas City
Missouri

Call
12-30-32
Kansas City, Mo.

Wide discrepancies in the number of lynchings during 1932, and in the names of the persons lynched are found in the reports issued by three organizations, the Associated Negro Press, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and the League of Struggle for Negro Rights.

The A. N. P. and the N. A. A. C. P. agree that 11 lynchings occurred during the year, but disagree on three of the cases. The league recorded 37 lynchings during the year.

The wide margin between the 37 reported by the league and the 11 recorded by the other two organizations is the result of the difference in the definition of a lynching.

The Definitions

The league considers as lynchings all cases in which persons were killed by shooting, hanging, burning or drowning at the hands of organized groups. The A. N. P. defines a lynching as any death inflicted by two or more privately organized citizens who impose such violence with correctional intent. Thus, the league includes the deaths of three persons who were shot down by a mob seeking a fugitive at Senatobia, Miss., as a lynching. The A. N. P. and the N. A. A. C. P. do not, as no punishment was meant to be meted out.

The A. N. P. and the N. A. A. C. P. agree upon the names of eight lynched persons, but the list of each includes three names which do not appear on the list of the other.

The eight lynchings agreed upon are those of:

David Tillis, held for an alleged insult to a white woman, who was seized and hanged to a tree April 1, 18 miles from Crockett, Texas.

Two Whites

Richard Read, white, who was taken from jail by a mob and hanged to a tree, April 13, at St. Francis, Kas. He had been arrested for raping an eight-year-old girl.

Walter Merrick, white, held in jail for dynamiting at Princeton, Ky., who was taken from his cell May 31, and hanged by a mob of masked men.

Luke Murray, arrested after a dispute with some white men, who was seized from jail at South Point, Ohio, and spirited away. His body was found June 7 in the Ohio river at Ironton.

Henry Woods, who was shot and killed by a posse of private citizens at Jasper, Fla., June 7, after he was alleged to have slain the police chief of the town.

Frank Tucker, who was taken from jail at Crossett, Ark., Sept 16, and hanged in the courtyard by a mob of 500 persons after he was alleged to have slashed the throat of a deputy.

Shadrock Thompson, who was found dangling from a tree near Markham, Va., September 16 after he had been sought for several days for an alleged attack on an aged white woman.

William House, who was taken November 19 from officers at Wisner, La., by a mob of 15 men, shot and hanged to a tree for an alleged insult to two white women.

The Disagreements

The three persons that the A. N. P. reports as lynched but whom the N. A. A. C. P. does not include are:

Willie Burns of Forrest City, Ark., who was trailed and caught by a posse after he had shot a deputy sheriff and who was killed by Jewett Powell, white private citizen, a member of the posse.

Charles Miller at Opelika, Ala., who was shot to death by a posse of private citizens after he was alleged to have shot and killed W. S. Jones, sheriff of Lee county.

Ralph Horton at Boone, N. C., who was slain by a posse which sought him for shooting a deputy sheriff.

Those cases which the N. A. A. C. P. includes in its report, but which the A. N. P. does not include are those of:

An aged Negro, name unknown, whose body was found in February in a pond at Brooksville, Fla.

Henry Russell, killed June 7 in Newton, Ga.

Henry Campbell, killed in November in Mullins, S. C.

League's Additions

The League of Struggle for Negro Rights reports all of the cases reported by the other organizations with these additional ones:

Joseph Kahahawai, shot in Honolulu in January; Cap Johnson, shot and drowned in Brooksville, Fla., in February; two unknown persons hanged in Brooksville, Fla., in February; Percy Berry, beaten and drowned in New Bern, S. C., in April; unknown person shot in Forrest City, Ark. in May; Richard Baker beaten to death in Gaffney, S. C., in June; Judge Crawford, his wife, three sons, a daughter and a son-in-law shot at Senatobia, Miss., in November; George Green, shot in Gretnaville, Miss., in November; Edward Cole, Water Valley, Miss.; Aaron Williams, Vicksburg, Miss.; Wilbur Anderson, near Vicksburg, Miss.; Will Harvey, Natchez, Miss.; Clarence Brooker, Grand Junction, Tenn.; Edgar Scott, Macon, Ga.; and Frank Kincaid, Canton, Miss., the last seven railway workers shot and killed by an organized murder ring.

In 1931, the N. A. A. C. P. reported 14 lynchings.

STAR
Shelby, N.C
DEC 30

LYNCHINGS DECREASE

Figures made public this week show that all the lynchings of 1932—11 in number—were not staged in what Dr. Mencken calls the Bible Belt. Kansas put on one lynching party and Ohio another. But in noting that the South is not the only section where mobs take law and lives in their own hand, there is nothing at all to feel proud about in realizing that there were nine lynchings in the South. It is cheering, however, to see that North Carolina is missing from the lynching list, the nearest lynching to North Carolina being one at Mullins, S. C., in November.

Lynchings- 1932
N.A.A.C.P. Report

3768

LESS LYNCHING

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No doubt a number of influences have combined to discourage the lynching habit. One of them has been the removal of Negroes from sections where they found conditions oppressive to industrial sections where they were welcome. That has ceased since the decline in the demand for workers. Yet it lasted long enough to persuade whites in some of the sections with large colored populations that the whites would themselves lose if the Negroes were driven away.

The education of Negroes has done something to protect them; the education of poor whites perhaps quite as much. Among the influences not to be overlooked has been the absence of serious race riots between whites and colored folk. Race riots are little else than wholesale lynchings. They became unpopular after the Negroes in one or two instances had taken to carrying the shooting into white streets. The race-rioting custom has declined and the rural districts take their example more or less from the towns.

More might have been done by authority and by public opinion to put an end to lynching. As matters go, it seems quite likely to die down of itself, chiefly or largely because the colored people have become better able to take care of themselves.—Brooklyn Daily Eagle.

JAMESTOWN. N. Y.
MORNING POST
DEC 31 1932

THE YEAR'S LYNCHINGS.

The record of eleven lynchings for the year, while in one sense a ground for gratification, is so only on the basis of comparison. The commendable feature lies only in the fact that there were not so many as in the preceding year. The single desirable condition would lie in the fact that not one was recorded. Yet, progress seems to be making toward elimination of this evidence of barbarism. While there have been exceptions, as a general rule there has been a decline from year to year in the mob murders. There were fourteen in 1931 and 21 in 1930. If we go further back the change is notably greater. In 1908 there were 100 and 255 in 1892.

It is in the Southland that mob action has been most frequent. In fact, it is confined almost exclusively to that section, though the North occasionally contributes an example. Florida had two, while Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, South Carolinafi Texas and Virginia had one each. All but two of the victims were negroes. Crimes against women figured in only a minority of the cases.

The reduced number of lynchings is not to be credited entirely to a diminished disposition toward mob action. There would have been a greater number had not the authorities taken effective steps to prevent mobs from executing their desires. A sense of the disgrace which falls on the community permitting a lynching to take place has prompted organization throughout the South in support of officers of the law in protecting prisoners. As a result mobs are not likely to carry everything before them as in former times when too often officers yielded without a struggle.

OSWEGO, N. Y.
PALLADIUM-TIMES
DEC 31 1932

VIEWPOINTS OF OTHER EDITORS

LESS LYNCHING
(Brooklyn Eagle)

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SHARON, PA.
HERALD
JAN 3 - 1933

MOB CRIMES.

There have been 11 lynchings in the United States this past year, three less than in 1931. The figure is only encouraging when compared with earlier years, in which lynchings numbered scores and even hundreds. The best year was 1929 with only 10. At that time the trend had been steadily downward for four years, but it jumped to 21 in 1930, suggesting that the progress made had not been fundamental or enduring.

The same mob spirit which makes lynchings possible and condones them after they have occurred is expressed in other forms, such as quasi-legal lynchings, shooting by members of posses, hasty court trials with results influenced by popular emotion. There is need for a stronger stand for law and order on the part of courts and public officials and of a stronger faith in justice as promoted through the courts. The public needs to recognize mob spirit as a force wholly evil and destructive of the very ends it pretends to seek.

Lynchings in 1932

According to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, there were 11 lynchings in 1932, a drop of three from 1931. Only one state, Florida, had two lynchings, while each of the following states had one lynching; Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisana, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia. Two of the victims were white; the rest were Negroes. In making public the figures, Walter White, N.A.A.C.P. secretary, said: "Satisfaction at this slight progress must be tempered by the knowledge that quasi-legal lynchings, shootings by members of posses, hasty court trials with results virtually dictated by mobs, as in Scottsboro, Alabama, are little if any better than open and unashamed mob murder. The lynching spirit still remains the focal problem of law enforcement in America."

CHICAGO, ILL.
AMERICAN
JAN 5 1933

31

Fewer Lynchings

An Encouraging Sign.

Copyright, 1933.

A hopeful sign of better race relations in the South is afforded by the decrease in lynchings this year as compared with last.

According to figures from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, there were eleven lynchings in 1932, whereas in 1931 there were fourteen. Two of the persons lynched this year, moreover, were whites.

Lynching is not confined exclusively to the South, one of the 1932 cases being in Ohio. And, considering the North's record for murder and assassination, it is perhaps not too much to conclude that "lynch law," once among the most sinister types of crime, is becoming a relatively minor matter. The impromptu executions of gangsters and of innocent bystanders at the hands of gunmen in the great Northern cities make most parts of the South look like Sunday school communities by contrast.

TACOMA, WASH.
LEDGER
JAN 7 1933

Mob Crimes

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JOURNAL
BALLSTON SPA, N. Y.
JAN 4 - 1933

LYNCHING

The annual compilation of lynching statistics shows a decrease of three in 1932 from the preceding year. In 1931 there were 14 lynchings and in 1932 the total was 11. That is encouraging, particularly so far as the South is concerned, since two states that hitherto have not recorded lynchings figured in the total this year. Ohio and Kansas each had a lynching, so without these the total would have been 9. Victims of lynching included two white men. The others were Negroes. The movement against lynching has accomplished something in Southern states. It is regrettable that mob law should likewise have prevailed in Kansas and in Ohio.

Before we can cast a stone at other states, however, we would best consider our own state. While no lynching was recorded, we have some stains on our own escutcheon. Racketeering and gangster murders have been common. In some places we have permitted racketeering to flourish. Juries have not always done their duty. There is more than one form of lynching.

DETROIT, MICH.
TIMES
JAN 4 1933

Fewer Lynchings

An Encouraging Sign

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NEWS
Brunswick Ga
JAN 1 1933

LYNCHINGS ON THE DECREASE

Lynchings for 1932 showed a decrease of 22 per cent throughout the nation, only one occurring in Georgia. The totla number for 1932 was 11, while in 1931 there were 14 in all states.

Lynchings are becoming isolated and frowned upon by law abiding people. Only in cases or rape or attempted rape do lynchings occur in the south. While a number of lynchings for this crime have been averted, it is one crime that arouses the best senses of the people and causes them to forget their duty as lawrespecting citizens. However, the reduction in the number of lynchings is due more to the fact that the crime of rape has been on the decrease. So long as such brutal crimes are committed, so long will there be lynchings committed.

The action of the federal courts in granting new trials for the young negroes who outraged two helpless young white girls in Scottsboro, Alabama, three years ago, was, indeed, unfortunate. The negroes were proved to be guilty of the crimes for which they were tried, yet under a technicality of the law, new trials were granted on the grounds that their trials were held under circumstances of coercion on account of the militia being ordered out by the governor of Alabama, in an effort to preserve order and to protect the negro criminals. The result of the new trial will be watched with much interest not only in the part of the law abiding people of Alabama, but by those who are employing lawyers to defend the rapists.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has announced the following lynchings for the year 1932, which is alleged to be the official list for the year.

"Aged negro, February, body found in pond, Brooksville, Fla.; David Tillus, April 1, Crockett, Texas; Richard Read (white), April 13, St. Francis, Kan.; Walter Merrick (White) May 31, Princeton, Ky.; Luke Marion, June 7, Ironton, Ohio; "Henry Woods, June 7, Jasper, Fla.; Henry Russell, August 29, Newton, Ga.; Frank Tucker, September 16, Crossett, Ark.; Shadrock Thompson, September 16, Warrentown, Va.; Henry Campbell House, November 19, Wisner, Louisiana."

The abatement of the crime of rape by the negro race will eventually eliminate lynchings and mob violence not only in the southern states, but in all states of the nation.—Athens Banner-Herald.

FT. WAYNE, IND.
NEWS SENTINEL
JAN 2 1933

LYNCHINGS.

We seem not to stand exactly on the threshold of Utopia, but things are neither so bad as they might be nor so bad they have been. Take the case of lynchings, for example. The list of lynchings in the United States in 1932, numbering 11, shows only a slight reduction compared with 1931, when 14 were recorded. But there were 21 in 1930, nearly double the figure for 1932.

We do not realize the improvement that has been made in this particular unless we go back to the "bad old days." In 1922, for example, there were 57 lynchings in this country; and in the year before that, there were 61. But the total for 1908 was an even hundred, while back in 1892, the total was 255.

During 1932, Florida had two lynchings, with one each in Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, Kentucky, Kansas, Texas, Virginia, South Carolina and Ohio.

As in other recent years, crimes against women figured to a minor extent. All but two of the 11 victims were Negroes.

Black as is this blot on our national escutcheon, there are some encouraging facts to report collaterally. For one thing, public officials, in several instances during 1932, exercised commendable determination to prevent mobs from taking the law into their own hands. Moreover, inter-racial committees have done much in several of the Southern states to encourage more reliance on duly constituted authorities to punish offenses.

Lynchings-1932
N.A.A.C.P.

3769

ELEVEN LYNCHED, SOCIETY REPORTS

Telegraph

One of 1932 Mob Executions Took Place in Georgia, Walter White Data Show

12-28-32

NEW YORK Dec. 27 (AP)—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced Tuesday that its records disclosed reports of 11 lynchings in 1932, compared with 14 in 1931. Two of those named were white, the remainder Negroes.

The lynchings in their chronological order, as listed by the association, follow:

Aged Negro, February, body found in pond, Brooksville, Fla.

David Tillus, April 1, Crockett. Texas.

Richard Read (white), April 13, St. Francis, Kan.

Walter Merrick (white), May 31, Princeton, Ky.

Luke Marion, June 7, Ironton, Ohio.

Henry Woods, June 7, Jasper, Fla.

Henry Russell, Aug. 29, Newton, Ga.

Frank Tucker, Sept. 16, Grossett, Ark.

Shadrock Thompson, Sept. 16, Warrenton, Va.

Henry Campbell, November, Mullins, S. C.

Williams House, Nov. 19, Wisner, La.

"Satisfaction at this slight progress," said Walter White, secretary of the association, "must be tempered by the knowledge that quasi-legal lynchings, shootings by members of posses, hasty court trials with results virtually dictated by mobs, as in Scottsboro, Ala., are little if any better than open and unashamed mob murder.

"The lynching spirit remains the focal problem of law enforcement in America."

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11 LYNCHINGS FOR YEAR 1932

Journal 12-28-32

New York, Dec. 26—A record of 11 reported lynchings for the year 1932 represents a decline of three from the 14 reported in 1931, according to statistics made public today by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. 69 Fifth Avenue.

Only one state, Florida, had two lynchings during the year. The other states, which each had one lynching are: Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia.

Two of the victims of lynching mobs were white, the remainder Negroes. Among the offenses charged to the mob victims were: quarrel with employer who formed the lynching mob; murder; stealing ten dollar bill and wounding deputy sheriff; quarrel over pay resulting in shooting; dynamiting store; insulting white women.

In all cases the mob either hanged or shot its victim, the body being subsequently burned in the case of Henry Woods, lynched at Jasper, Fla.

In making public the figures, Walter White, Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People said:

"Reported lynchings are three less this year than in 1931. But satisfaction at this slight progress must be tempered by the knowledge that quasi-legal lynchings, shootings by members of posses hasty court trial with results virtually dictated by mobs as in Scottsboro, Alabama, are little if any better than open and unashamed mob murder. The lynching spirit remains the focal problem of law enforcement in America."

The lynchings in their chonological order as listed by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, are:

1. Aged Negro, February, Body found in pond, Brooksville,. Fla.
2. David Tillus, April 1, Crockett Texas.
3. Richard Read (white), April 13, St. Francis, Kansas.
4. Walter Merrick (white) May 31, Princeton, Kentucky.
5. Luke Marion, June 7, Ironton, Ohio.
6. Henry Woods, June 7, Jasper, Florida.
7. Henry Russell, August 29, Newton, Georgia.

Crossett, Arkansas

9. Shadrock Thompson, September 16, Warenton, Virginia.
10. Henry Campbell, November, Mullins, South Carolina.
11. William House, November 19, Wisner, Louisiana.

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11 Lynchings Reported for 1932

Bystander 12-30-32

DECLINE OF 3 FROM 1931

New York, Dec. 30.—A record of 11 reported lynchings for the years 1932 represents a decline of three from the 14 reported in 1931, according to statistics made public today by the N. A. A. C. P., 69 Fifth Ave. Only one state, Florida, had two lynchings during the year. The other states, which each had one lynching are: Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia.

Two of the victims of lynching mobs were white, the remainder Negroes. Among the offenses charged to the mob victims were: quarrel with employer who formed the lynching mob; murder; stealing ten dollar bill and wounding deputy sheriff; quarrel over pay resulting in shooting; dynamiting store; insulting white women. In all cases the mob either hanged or shot its victim, the body being subsequently burned in the case of Henry Woods, lynched at Jasper, Fla.

In making public the figures, Walter White, Secretary of the N. A. A. C. P., said: "Reported lynchings are three less this year than in 1931. But satisfaction at this slight progress must be tempered by the knowledge that quasi-legal lynchings, shootings by members of posses, hasty court trials with results virtually dictated by mobs, as in Scottsboro, Alabama, are little if any better than open and unashamed mob murder. The lynching spirit remains the focal problem of law enforcement in America."

Lynchings Decline 22 Per Cent in Year

Constitution 12-28-32

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—(AP)—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced today that its record disclosed reports of 11 lynchings in 1932, compared with 14 in 1931, a decline of 22 plus per cent. Two of those named were white, the remainder negroes.

The lynchings in their chronological order, as listed by the association, follow:

Aged negro, February, body found in pond, Brooksville, Fla.; David Tillus, April 1, Crockett, Texas; Richard Read (white), April 13, St. Francis, Kan.; Walter Merrick (white), May 31, Princeton, Ky.; Luke Marion, June 7, Ironton, Ohio; Henry Woods, June 7, Jasper, Fla.; Henry Russell, August 29, Newton, Ga.; Frank Tucker, September 16, Crossett, Ark.; Shadrock Thompson, September 16, Warrentown, Va.; Henr. Campbell, November, Mullins, S. C.; William House, November 19, Wisner, La.

"Satisfaction at this slight progress," said Walter White, secretary of the association, "must be tempered by the knowledge that quasi-legal lynchings, shootings by members of posses, hasty court trials with results virtually dictated by mobs, are little if any better than open and unashamed mob murder.

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11 LYNCHINGS THIS YEAR.

12-28-32

Three Less Than in 1931—All but Two of Victims Were Negroes.

There have been eleven lynchings in the United States this year, as compared with fourteen in 1931, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced yesterday. The 1932 lynchings claimed two white victims, the others naving been Negroes.

Florida had two lynchings. Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia had one each. In all cases the mobs either hanged or shot their victims, and in the case of Henry Woods in Florida the body was also burned.

The offenses charged to the victims included a quarrel with an employer, murder, theft of a $10 note and the wounding of a deputy sheriff, quarrel over pay resulting in shooting, dynamiting a store and insulting white women.

"Satisfaction at this slight progress," said Walter White, secretary of the association, yesterday, "must be tempered by the knowledge that quasi-legal lynchings, shootings by members of posses, hasty court trials with results virtually dictated by mobs, as in Scottsboro, Ala., are little if any better than open and unashamed mob murder. The lynching spirit remains the focal problem of law enforcement in America."

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11 Lynched in 1932

Guardian 12-31-32

ONLY SLIGHT PROGRESS—MANY QUASI-LYNCHINGS — 14 RECORDED FOR 1931

New York, Dec. 27, 1932—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced today that its records disclosed reports of 11 lynchings in 1932, compared with 14 in 1931. Two of those named were white, the remainder colored.

"Satisfaction at this slight progress," said Walter White, secretary of the association, "must be tempered by the knowledge that quasi-legal lynchings, shooting by members of posses, hasty court trials with results virtually dictated by mobs, as in Scottsboro, Ala. are little if any better than open and unashamed mob murder.

"The lynching spirit remains the focal problem of law enforcement in America."

NEW YORK TIMES

DEC 28 1932

11 LYNCHINGS THIS YEAR.

Three Less Than in 1931—All but Two of Victims Were Negroes.

There have been eleven lynchings in the United States this year, as compared with fourteen in 1931, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announced yesterday. The 1932 lynchings claimed two white victims, the others naving been Negroes.

Florida had two lynchings. Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia had one each. In all cases the mobs either hanged or shot their victims, and in the case of Henry Woods in Florida the body was also burned.

The offenses charged to the victims included a quarrel with an employer, murder, theft of a $10 note and the wounding of a deputy sheriff, quarrel over pay resulting in shooting, dynamiting a store and insulting white women.

"Satisfaction at this slight progress," said Walter White, secretary of the association, yesterday, "must be tempered by the knowledge that quasi-legal lynchings, shootings by members of posses, hasty court trials with results virtually dictated by mobs, as in Scottsboro, Ala., are little if any better than open and unashamed mob murder. The lynching spirit remains the focal problem of law enforcement in America."

NAACP FINDS 11 1932 LYNCHINGS

Chronicle

Society Finds That There Three Less Than in 1931

12-31-32

New York—A record of 11 reported lynchings for the year 1932 represents a decline of three from the 14 reported in 1931, according to statistics by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Only one state, Florida, had two lynchings for the year. The other states, which each had one lynching are: Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia.

Two of the victims of the mobs were white, the remainder Negroes. Among the offenses charged to the mob victims were: quarrel with employer who formed the lynching mob; murder, stealing ten dollar bill and wounding deputy sheriff; quarrel over pay resulting in shooting; dynamiting store; insulting white women.

In all case the mob either hanged or shot its victim, the body being subsequently burned in the case of Henry Woods at Jasper, Fla.

New York American

DEC 28 1932

Eleven Lynchings in 1932, Three Less Than Last Year

Eleven lynchings occurred in the United States in 1932, compared with fourteen in 1931, according to statistics made public yesterday by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Two of the victims were white, the remainder Negroes.

Only one State, Florida, had two lynchings. Other States in which one was reported were Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia.

Walter White, secretary of the association, said:

"The lynching spirit remains the focal problem of law enforcement in America."

New York Evening Journal

DEC 28 1932

11 Lynchings Of '32 Held 'Murders'

Lynchings, although fewer this year, are little more than "open and unashamed mob murder" and still constitute a problem of law enforcement in America.

Such is the characterization of Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, today, in disclosing that 11 persons, nine of them negroes, met death at the hands of mobs in the 12 months just drawing to a close. The number in 1931 was 14.

One State, Florida, had two lynchings during 1932. One each occurred in Arkansas, Georgia Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia. In one instance, that of Harry Woods, at Jasper, Fla., the body was burned after the lynching.

N. Y. SUN

DEC 28 1932

11 Lynchings in 1932, Decline of 3 From 1931

A record of eleven lynchings for 1932 re resents a decline of three from the fourteen reported in 1931, according to statistics made public today by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Only one State, Florida, had two lynchings during the year. The other States, which each had one lynching, are: Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia.

Two of the victims of lynching mobs were white, the remainder Negroes. In all cases the mob either hanged or shot its victim.

N. Y. HERALD

DEC 28 1932

11 Lynchings This Year 3 Less Than 1931 Total

9 of Victims Negroes, Survey of Mob Violence Shows

There were eleven lynchings in the United States during the last year, three less than the preceding year, according to figures released yesterday by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue. Negroes were the victims in nine of the eleven cases.

Among the offenses charged to the mob victims were: quarrel with an employer who formed the lynching mob; murder; stealing a $10 bill and wounding a deputy sheriff; quarrel over pay; dynamiting of a store, and insulting a white woman.

The distribution of the lynchings by states were, Florida, two; and Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia, one each.

In all cases the mob either hanged or shot its victims. In one instance, at Jasper, Fla., the victim was subsequently burned.

N.A.A.C.P. Lists 11 Lynchings for 1932, Decline of 3 From Last Year

NEW YORK.—A record of 11 reported lynchings for the year 1932 represents a decline of three from the 14 reported in 1931, according to statistics made public this week by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Only one state, Florida, had two lynchings during the year. The other states which each had one lynching, are: Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia.

Two of the victims of lynching mobs were white, the remainder Negroes. Among the offenses charged to the mob victims were: quarrel with employer who formed the lynching mob, murder, stealing ten-dollar bill and wounding deputy sheriff, quarrel over pay resulting in shooting, dynamiting store, insulting white women.

In all cases the mob either hanged or shot its victim, the body being subsequently burned in the case of Henry Woods, lynched at Jasper, Fla.

In making public the figures, Walter White, secretary of the N.A.A.C.P., said:

"Reported lynchings are three less this year than in 1931. But satisfaction at this slight progress must be tempered by the knowledge that quasi-legal lynchings, shootings by members of posses, hasty court trials with results virtually dictated by mobs, as in Scottsboro, Ala., are little if any better than open and unashamed mob murder. The lynching spirit remains the focal problem of law enforcement in America."

The lynchings in their chronological order as listed by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, are:

1. Aged Negro. February. Body found in pond, Brooksville, Fla.
2. David Tillus, April 1. Crockett, Tex.
3. Richard Read, white, April 13, St. Francis, Kans.
4. Walter Merrick, white, May 31, Princeton, Ky.
5. Luke Marion, June 7, Ironton, Ohio.
6. Henry Woods, June 7, Jasper, Fla.
7. Henry Russell, August 29, Newton, Ga.
8. Frank Tucker, September 16, Crossett, Arkansas.
9. Shadrock Thompson, September 16, Warrenton, Va.
10. Henry Campbell, November, Mullins, S.C.
11. Williams House, November 19, Wisner, Louisiana.

Eight Lynchings In 1932, Tuskegee Report Shows

Advertiser

1-2-33

Montgomery, Ala.

TUSKEGEE, ALA., Jan. 1—(AP)—Eight lynchings took place in 1932, the lowest number in years, the department of records and research at Tuskegee Institute reported today.

Of the number, six were negroes and the charges included murder one; attempted murder one, criminal attack one attempted attack one; wounding officer of the law and dynamiting store one; insulting women, one; and threatening men with a knife, one.

Eight states reported one lynching each, the report said. They were: Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia.

The report said four of those lynched were taken from jails and three were taken from officers of the law outside of jails. Thirty-one instances were reported where officers prevented lynchings.

Crime and Disaster

THE following report on the year's lynchings in the United States has been received from Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932. I find, according to the records compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number (13) for 1931, 13 less than the number (21) for 1930, 2 less than the number (10) for 1929, 3 less than the number (11) for 1928 and 8 less than the number (16) for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law, 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

1-1-33

"There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 Negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were Negro. The offenses charged were: Murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

"The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1, and Virginia, 1."

LYNCHINGS DECREASE, 8 LISTED FOR 1932

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31—(AP)—Eight lynchings took place in 1932 the lowest number in years, the department of records and research at Tuskegee Institute reported today.

Of the number, six were negroes and the charges included: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; criminal attack, 1; attempted attack, 1; wounding officer of the law, and dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1, and threatening men with a knife, 1.

Eight states reported one lynching each, the report said. They were: Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia.

The report said four of those lynched were taken from jails and three were taken from officers of the law outside of jails. Thirty-one instances were reported where officers prevented lynchings.

DAYTON, O.
JOURNAL

DEC 31 1932

Fewer Lynchings This Year

According to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, there have been 11 lynchings this year, compared with 14 in 1931. The year's lynchings claimed the lives of two white persons and nine Negroes. In all cases mobs either hanged or shot their victims. In one case the body of the victim of the mob's wrath was burned.

Florida has two lynchings to lead the list Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio South Carolina, Texas and Virginia had one each. The presence of Ohio and Kansas on the roll of dishonor is unusual. Lynching has been long relegated to the past by these states.

It is the offenses charged to the victims which show how brutal and unreasoning direct action is. One resulted from a quarrel with an employer. Another was due to theft of a $10 note. Quarrel over pay resulted in another. Dynamiting a store meant the abrupt end of another life. Wounding of a deputy sheriff called forth direct action in another case. Murder and insulting white women accounted for the others.

The situation is vastly improved, but lynching will remain a problem of law enforcement so long as it is practiced. The safety of no person is assured so long as mobs are permitted to gather and select a victim, who may or may not be guilty. Every lynching is a challenge to good government and the constitutional rights of unfortunate victims, and is but one degree removed from anarchy.

BUFFALO, N. Y
COURIER EXPRESS

DEC 30 1932

NO ROOM FOR PRIDE

According to data gathered by the Association for the Advancement of Colored People, there were eleven lynchings in 1932, three fewer than in 1931. Nine of the victims of mob law were Negroes.

This decrease in lynchings in the last twelve months affords some cause for encouragement. If compared with conditions a few decades ago, it is quite clear that Judge Lynch's court becomes more and more restricted in its jurisdiction.

As yet, however, there is no room for pride in our record of lynchings. When the Ku Klux spirit is destroyed in this country it will be time enough to feel that the law has really been made superior to lynch law.

Lynchings-1932

N.A.A.C.P. Reports on.

3770

SUN
Jackson, Tenn
JUN 16 1932

Good News From 1931

Most of the reports on things that have happened during the past year make rather dismal reading. But we needn't get the idea that all of the records were worse than those of the year preceding.

For instance: the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People reports that during 1931 there were 14 lynchings in the United States—which compares with 25 in 1930.

This is good news, especially when it is remembered that a bad depression year usually intensifies class and racial antagonism and makes lynchings more likely rather than less. To make a reduction of nearly 50 per cent in the number of lynchings during a year like 1931 is a real achievement.

KANKAKEE, ILL.
REPUBLICAN NEWS
JUN 13 1932

CLARKSBURG, W. VA.
EXPONENT
JUN 16 1932

IOWA CITY, IA.
PRESS
JUN 14 1932

SOUTH BEND, IND.
NEWS TIMES
JUN 13 1932

TALLAHASSEE, FLA.
DEMOCRAT
JUN 14 1932

SUPERIOR, WIS.
TELEGRAM
JUN 14 1932

SUMPTER, S. C.
ITEM
JUN 15 1932

JOURNAL
MUSCATINE, IA.
JUN 13 1932

ALLENTOWN PA.
CHRONICLE-NEWS & ITEM
JUN 13 1932

PORTSMOUTH, VA.
STAR
JUN 14 1932

Star
TERRE HAUTE
INDIANA
JUN 16 1932

TIMES
Reading, Pa
JUN 14 1932

San Barnardino, Calif.
Telegram
JUN 15 1932

HIGH POINT, N. C.
ENTERPRISE
JUN 14 1932

CHESTER, PA.
TIMES
JUN 13 1932

HAVERHILL, MASS.
EVE. GAZETTE
JUN 18 1932

TAUNTON, MASS
GAZETTE
JUN 13 1932

Cape Girardeau
SOUTHEAST [illegible]
JUN 16 1932

TALLAHASSEE, FLA.
DEMOCRAT
JUN 14 1932

News
Rhinelander-Wis.
JUN 13 1932

LA CROSSE, WIS.
TRIBUNE
JUN 16 1932

BRIDGEPORT, CONN.
TIMES-STAR
JUN 18 1932

ROME, N. Y.
SENTINEL
MAY 13 1932

The Negro and the Law

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which is composed largely of whites, in its annual report just issued gives the total number of lynchings in Continental United States in 1931 as 14, compared with 25 in 1930, but notes that some of last year's were "extremely brutal." In each year one of the victims was white, last year's being in North Dakota. Negroes were lynched in these nine states: Alabama, 1; Florida, 2; Louisiana, 1; Maryland, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 1; Tennessee, 1; West Virginia, 2; Texas, 1.

Those who wish may join the foregoing with the recent lynching by four whites from the mainland of a native Hawaiian, in their personal speculations as to lawlessness.

The association's report before mentioned remarks that mass political action of Negroes during the year 1931 revealed the race to be "increasingly emancipated from traditional party allegiance." "In law," the report continued, "more calls than ever came to the association for aid during the year, and the record of eight Negroes, either freed entirely or with executions reversed or delayed among those originally sentenced to death, is evidence of the effective nature of this work. Segregation, discrimination, aid to the Republic of Haiti, all enlisted the activity of the association deployed on the wide front of the battle for human rights."

Since the report was closed, the Supreme Court of the United States has rendered a decision on its face according to Negroes' right to vote in the Democratic primaries in Texas; but it is being intimated from the Lone Star State that when the Legislature again convenes it will base fresh legislation on a phrase in the high court's opinion and thus debar the blacks from the primaries at lease until they have again gone through the tedious process of carrying the case to Washington. The assumption seems to be that, should the Legislature repeal its present statute giving the Democratic state executive committee authority to determine the membership of the party, the state convention might bar out the Negroes without offending the high court's most recent ruling.

However, it is said that the state convention has never yet passed any such resolution and it is not at all certain that it would take such positive action.

NEW YORK TIMES
MAY 12 1932

14 LYNCHINGS IN 1931, NEGRO GROUP REPORTS

Drop From 25 in Previous Year—More Mass Action by Race in Politics Discerned.

There were fourteen lynchings in 1931, as compared with twenty-five in 1930, but many of last year's were murders of extreme brutality, according to the annual report of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, just published. In each year one of the victims was white, the rest having been Negroes.

The lynching of the white man in 1931 took place in North Dakota. The Negro lynchings occurred in nine States. Alabama had one, Florida two, Louisiana one, Maryland one, Mississippi three, Missouri one, Tennessee one, West Virginia two, and Texas one.

The report said that mass political action of Negroes during the year had shown the race to be increasingly emancipated from traditional party allegiance.

"In law," the report continued, "more calls than ever came to the association for aid during the year, and the record of eight Negroes, either freed entirely or with executions reversed or delayed among those originally sentenced to death, is evidence of the effective nature of this work. Segregation, discrimination, aid to the Republic of Haiti, all enlisted the activity of the association deployed on the wide front of the battle for human rights."

The association expended $83,933 during 1931 and its officers traveled 75,551 miles to carry out its work. "More work has been done," said the report, "greater sums expended, and greater sums received than in the previous year."

DELAND, FLA.
SUN NEWS
JUN 14 1932

MEADVILLE, PA.
TRIBUNE-REPUBLICAN
JUN 14 1932

SO. NORWALK CONN
SENTINAL
JUN 13 1932

Salt Lake City, Utah
TELEGRAM
JUN 14 1932

AUGUSTA, GA
HERALD
JUN 15 1932

FREMONT, NEB.
TRIBUNE
JUN 13 1932

ROM 1931 Cont'd

NEWS
LONGVIEW, WASH.
JUN 24 1932

GOOD RECORD IN A BAD YEAR

MOST of the reports on things that have happened during the past year make rather dismal reading. But we needn't get the idea that all of the records were worse than those of the year preceding.

For instance: the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People reports that during 1931 there were 14 lynchings in the United States—which compares with 25 in 1930.

This is good news, especially when it is remembered that a bad depression year usually intensifies class and racial antagonism and makes lynchings more likely rather than less. To make a reduction of nearly 50 per cent in the number of lynchings during a year like 1931 is a real achievement.

JOURNAL
CRAWFORDSVILLE, IND.
JUN 17 1932

OKEMAH, OKLA.
LEADER
JUN 17 1932

CAMBRIDGE, MASS.
JOURNAL
JUN 23 1932

CORPUS CHRISTI, TEX.
TIMES
JUN 24 1932

PORT ARTHUR, TEX.
PORT ARTHUR NEWS
JUN 17 1932

EL DORADO, ARK.
NEWS
JUN 18 1932

OLYMPIAN
OLYMPIA, WASH.
JUN 19 1932

SPRINGFIELD, MO.
LEADER
JUN 21 1932

Oklahoma City, Okla.
NEWS
JUN 22 1932

BROWNWOOD, TEX.
BULLETIN
JUN 22 1932

BELLINGHAM, WASH.
News
JUN 15 1932

YAKIMA, WASH.
HERALD
JUN 17 1932

BUTTE, MONT.
POST
JUN 20 1932

LONG BRANCH, N. J.
RECORD
JUN 23 1932

HANNIBAL, MO.
COURIER-POST & JOURNAL
JUN 20 1932

AKRON, O.
TIMES PRESS
JUN 25 1932

[illegible] Springs, [illegible]
STANDARD
JUN 28 1932

SAN PEDRO, CAL.
NEWS-PILOT
JUN 18 1932

TIMES
DAVENPORT, IA.
JUN 23 1932

BATON ROUGE, LA.
ADVOCATE
JUN 24 1932

Augusta, Ga. Herald
Wednesday, June 15, 1932

LEADER
GUTHRIE, OKLA.
JUN 14 1932

TWIN FALLS, IDAHO
IDAHO TIMES
JUN 17 1932

MASON CITY, IA.
GLOBE GAZETTE
JUN 23 1932

GOOD 1931 NEWS

MOST of the reports on things that have happened during the past year make rather dismal reading. But we needn't get the idea that all of the records were worse than those of the year preceding.

For instance: The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People reports that during 1931 there were 14 lynchings in the United States—which compares with 25 in 1930.

This is good news, especially when it is remembered that a depression usually intensifies class and racial antagonism and makes lynchings more likely rather than less. To make a reduction of nearly 50 per cent in the number of lynchings during a year like 1931 is a real achievement.

Deland, Fla. News
Tuesday, June 14, 1932

GOOD NEWS FROM 1931

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For instance: the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People reports that during 1931 there were 14 lynchings in the United States—which compares with 25 in 1930.

This is good news, especially when it is remembered that a bad depression year usually intensifies class and racial antagonism and makes lynchings more likely rather than less. To make a reduction of nearly 50 per cent in the number of lynchings during a year like 1931 is a real achievement.

MEADVILLE, PA.
TRIBUNE-REPUBLICAN
JUL 12 1932

WICHITA FALLS, TEX.
RECORD NEWS
JUN 14 1932

TIMES
Frankfort, Ind.
JUN 14 1932

SAN JOSE, CALIF.
NEWS
JUL [illegible] 1932

Charlotte, N. C. News
Saturday, July 2, 1932

One Heartening Achievement.

One achievement of the past year stands out as an heartening exception to the general run of dismal news of the accomplishments of the people of this country during that period. It is that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People reports that during 1931 there were 14 lynchings in the United States — which compares with 25 in 1930.

This is good news, especially when it is remembered that a bad depression year usually intensifies class and racial antagonism and makes lynchings more likely rather than less. To make a reduction of nearly 50 per cent in the number of lynchings during a year like 1931 is a real achievement.

HERALD
Brownsville Tex.
JUL 7 1932

HOUGHTON, MICH.
MINING GAZETTE
JUN 15 1932

LEAVENWORTH, KANS.
TIMES
JUN 16 1932

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.
EVE. UNION
JUN 20 1932

CAMDEN, N. J.
COURIER
JUN 16 1932

Walla Walla, Wash.
BULLETIN
JUN 20 1932

DANBURY, CONN.
TIMES
JUN 14 1932

AUSTIN, MINN.
HERALD
JUN 13 1932

BRAINERD, MINN.
DISPATCH
JUN 13 1932

OTTUMWA, IA.
COURIER
JUN 25 1932

MERIDEN, CONN.
JOURNAL
JUN 18 1932

SAN DIEGO, CAILF.
SUN
JUN 20 1932

AUSTIN, TEX.
STATESMAN
JUN 15 1932

TIMES
NEW PHILADELPHIA, O.
JUN 15 1932

Lynchings-1932

Alabama

3771

Prevented

Talladega, Ala., Home
Friday, April 8, 1932

The swiftness and intelligence with which Sheriff Geo. W. Burk moved Wednesday evening when he took into custody a negro charged with attacking a young white woman probably saved Talladega county's record of never having a lynching. The sheriff and the county are to be congratulated.

Mob Foiled By Alabama Sheriff

Montgomery-Advertiser

Negro Attacker Is Brought Here For Safe-Keeping; Ashland Jail Threatened

Montgomery, Ala.

8-6-32

James Stephens, 22-year-old negro farm hand of Ashland, Clay County, accused of criminally attacking the 15-year-old daughter of an Ashland widow Tuesday afternoon, was in the county jail here yesterday for safe-keeping. The negro was spirited away from the jail at Ashland Thursday night about two hours before a mob, estimated at between 150 and 200 persons, assembled near the jail and threatened an attempt to take the negro from his cell.

A sheriff's deputy last night said the negro was accused of attacking the girl while she was walking a short distance from her farm home. The deputy said the negro denied the charge despite his identification by the girl as her assailant.

Bloodhounds were used in tracking the negro, but their use was needless. He was arrested early Wednesday morning at his home, about one-half mile from the girl's, by Sheriff C. S. Phillips. The negro offered no resistance.

Fearing trouble, Sheriff Phillips spirited the negro away from Ashland Thursday night and brought him to Kilby Prison. Because of a technicality, however, his entrance there was denied and Stephens was brought to Montgomery and lodged in the county jail.

Stephens had lived in the Ashland section since January.

Negro Farm Hand Held as Attacker

Macon Telegraph and News

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Aug. 6. (AP) James Stephens, 22-year-old Negro farm hand, of Ashland, accused of attacking the 15-year-old daughter of an Ashland widow Tuesday, was in the county jail here Friday for safe-keeping.

Macon Ga.

The Negro was spirited away from jail at Ashland Thursday night about two hours before a mob threatened an attempt to take him from his cell.

8-7-32

Officers said the Negro denied the charge, despite his identification by the girl as her assailant.

Arizona.

3773

Lynchings-1932
6
Prevented

BROOKLYN, N. Y
EAGLE

DEC 20 1932

Save Negro Suspect From Mob Violence

Phoenix, Ariz., Dec. 20 (AP)—To save him from possible mob violence, Curtis Crisp, Negro suspect in the slaying of C. G. Fountain, rancher, was held in jail here today. He was rushed here from Yuma last night, where a mob had gathered.

New York Evening Journal

DEC 19 1932

Disperse Lynch Mob.

YUMA, Ariz., Dec. 19.—An armed mob of 100 infuriated farmers were dispersed today after torming the County Jail in an attempt to lynch Curtis Crisp, 26, negro

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YUMA, ARIZ.
ARIZONA SENTINAL

DEC 20 1932

SAVED US A TRAGEDY

Sometimes it seems as tho ~~lynching is~~ the best way to dispose of a prisoner whose crime is obvious and particularly vicious. But lynching is never a good way out as it leaves a stigma upon the community and adds horror to what is already bad enough.

Sheriff Hunter saved Yuma from a lynching that would have left a bad taste for years to come. No one blames the neighbors of the slain man for being ncensed and wanting to avenge the murder. They were, however, willing to listen to reason and the sheriff's cool attitude helped in displacing anger with reasoning. Every man in the mob that gathered about the jail is no doubt glad now that they wern' allowed to enter the jail and lynch the three negroes accused of killing Fountain. They have this feeling regardless of the fact that they probably could have forced their way in.

With the prisoners safe in Phoenix, the law will now take its course and there is little doubt but that justice will be well served even tho the route is a little longer to the desired end. A legal execution is bad enough, but it is common enough and someway does not seem so horrible.

Lynchings-1932

Arkansas.

3774

Prevented.

MOB TRIES TWICE TO LYNCH NEGRO

Informer

4-30-32

Little Rock, Ark.—(CNS)—Two attempts have been made recently to lynch Woodie Williams, alleged burglar and slayer of a white groceryman. Police fearing attempts of mob violence gave out the story the man had been killed evading arrest. Soon, however, a group of white men went to the hospital where Williams had been taken by officers for treatment of gunshot wounds, and tried to find him. They arrived too late. He had been taken to the penitentiary. A larger group then proceeded to the penitentiary where they demanded the sheriff to let them see the prisoner. Following these attempts extra precaution was taken to guard the man.

Houston Tex.

Sheriff Eludes Mob And Saves Prisoner

Journal and

POPULAR BLUFF, Ark.—(ANP)—Only the quick wit of Sheriff [illegible] Jackson saved the life of Edward Hazel, a suspect in an attack of an [illegible]-year-old white girl, from a "posse" of 60 white men.

Lynchings-1932

Florida

3775

Prevented

Birmingham, Ala., News
Monday, March 28, 1932

LYNCHING AVERTED

Soldiers Protect Prisoners In Killing Case From Mob

LAKELAND, Fla. — (AP) — National guardsmen were called out here Sunday night to prevent disorders after a mob threatened to storm the city jail, where four prisoners were held in the slaying of two policemen.

The officers, T. A. Nicholson, 38, and W. T. Barnett, 47, were shot at the home of Sam Acree, where they had gone on the complaint of a neighbor that two men were fighting there.

J. E. Johnston, one of the prisoners, told a coroner's jury he shot Nicholson at the Acree home as the officer scuffled with Perry Acree and Acree's mother, who was trying to save him from arrest. The jurors held that Perry Acree killed Barnett.

Besides Perry Acree and Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Acree were arrested.

There were cries of "Lynch them, lynch them," as a crowd gathered about the jail. Officials made a plea against violence and the guardsmen were ordered out. A special session of the Grand Jury was called to investigate the slayings Monday.

Nicholson was formerly from East Bend, N. C., and Barnett came from Sheffield, Ala.

KIDNAPED GIRL IS FOUND

Suspect Hurried to Prison to Thwart Mob Violence.

BARTOW, Fla., Jan. 23.—(AP)—A 14-year-old girl, Velma Kilpatrick, missing since Sunday night, was found in a daze near her home, 12 miles west of Bartow today and told a story of kidnaping that led to the arrest of a [illegible] named Ellis Watts.

Community sentiment against him was manifested by groups milling about her home and officers hurried him to prison in Bartow.

The girl suffering from exposure and hunger, was brought to a pospital here.

She told authorities that Watts forced her into his automobile. Some time later—she couldn't recall when—she was released within sight of her home.

Memphis
Commercial
Appeal
1-23-32

Lynchings-1932

Prevented

Sheriff Prevents Lynching

Afro-American

ALBANY, Ga. — (CNS) —An attempt was made last week by a lynch-mob to take away from Sheriff O. F. Tarver and his deputy, A. J. Denson, Shep Bruner, who is accused of assault on a white woman. The attempt, however, was frustrated by the sheriff and his deputy, who threatened to shoot to kill anyone who tried to take away the prisoner.

Cordele Dispatch

Cordele

GEORGIA

5-17-32

OFFICERS REFUSE TO GIVE UP NEGRO

DOUGHERTY AUTHORITIES REVEAL ATTEMPT BY ARMED MEN TO TAKE SHEP BRUNER

ALBANY, Ga., May 16— Dougherty county's record of never having had a lynching in its 75 years of existence was preserved intact Sunday due to the courage of Sheriff O. F. Tarver and his chief deputy, A. J. Denson, it became known Monday, when details of a frustrated attempt to wrest Shep Bruner, negro, accused of attempted assault, from them was made public.

Bruner was arrested Friday afternoon and placed in the county jail accused of attempting a criminal assault on a young white woman residing in the western part of the county. Sunday the sheriff and his deputy started to carry the negro to the house of the young woman for purposes of identification. As they approached the house where the young woman resides, the officers said another car rolled up carrying four armed men who demanded that the prisoner be turned over to them.

The officers promptly relieved the men of their guns and informed them that there was going to be no lynching, that Dougherty county's reputation was going to be preserved as it had been in the past.

Rather than risk another encounter, the officers retraced their course and returned Bruner to jail.

They plan to bring the young woman to the jail at a later date and let her see if she can identify the negro.

Sheriff Tarver stated Monday that he and Denson know the names of the four men and have in their possession the guns taken from them. The information and the guns will be turned over to the next grand jury, he stated.

BAINBRIDGE QUIET AFTER SHOOTING

Constitution

Atlanta Ga.

Excitement Subsides After Negro Killer Is Rushed to Safety.

6-20-32.

BAINBRIDGE, Ga., June 19.—High feeling that existed here Saturday night when a negro known as Sam Hall shot and killed Dr. Roy Herron, 37, prominent veterinary surgeon, had ebbed Sunday. The crowds contented themselves with paying a last tribute to Dr. Herron before the body was sent to Starr, S. C., his birthplace.

Within 15 minutes after the shooting the slayer was escorted by Sheriff W. J. Catledge and Assistant Police Chief D. R. Barber to an unannounced destination, and a few minutes later cars were going out from Bainbridge in every direction in an effort to locate the jail to which he had been carried. Their efforts were thwarted by the quick work of the officers.

Dr. Herron was shot through the heart after the negro had cursed him and complained because the car of the doctor had narrowly missed hitting the negro's wagon, according to a young lady eye-witness who was riding with Herron. Patrolman R. H. Drinkwater and Fireman Dick Adams happened on the scene immediately and arrested the negro, who was standing over the body with two guns in his hands.

Herron is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Herron Sr.; three sisters, Mrs. W. P. Pettigrew, Misses Eva and Marion Herron, all of Seneca, S. C.; three brothers, Reese, of Anderson, S. C.; Clyde, of Columbia, and James, of Starr. He attended Clemson and Auburn and came here after service in the American army during the World War.

Georgia

3777

Bainbridge, Ga., Post-Searchlight
Thursday, June 23, 1932

DR. ROY H. HERRON KILLED BY SAM HALL SATURDAY NIGHT

Negro Rushed Out of Town for Safe Keeping—Town In Stir All Night

Saturday night the entire town and county was shocked o learn that Dr. R. H. Herron had been shot and killed by a negro named Sam Hall, on Washington Street.

Dr. Herron has been a resident of Bainbridge for about fourteen years and in his work as a vetrinary surgeon had made a host of friends and enjoyed a wide acquaintance.

A number of conflicting reorts have been flying about the kliling and it seems to be cold blooded murder and about as brutal killing as has been here for years. The negro that did the killing bore a rather dangerous reputation and this episod kept up that reputation.

It seems that Dr. Herron and a young lady were riding and while driving he attempted to light a cigarette and his car swayed pretty close to he negro's wagon but never hit it. The negro began to curse and rave and Herron got out of his car and went back to see what damage had been done, and to stop the negro from his abuse. The Doctor approached close to the wagon and the negro jumped from the wagon right on top of him and knocked him down and shot him. There was three shots fired but only one seemed to have took effect and that went right through Dr. Herron's heart. The town was in an uproar. The officers spirited the negro away right quick and averted serious trouble.

Doctor Herron came to Bainbridge immediately after the World War, in which he served in the American Army as a veteniary surgeon. He attended Clemson College and Alabama Polytechnic Institute, in Auburn, where he played football. Since 1919 he had rendered invaluable aid to coaches of Bainbrdige High School in that branch of athletics. His friends in this county were legion, and hundreds attended the services here Sunday afternoon.

He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Herron; three sisters, Mrs. W. P. Pettigrew, and Misses Eva and Marian Herron, all of Starr, S. C.; three brothers, James Herron, of Starr, who played baseball here last summer; Clyde Herron, of Columbia, S. C., and Reese Herron, of Anderson, S. C. Pallbearers, all members of the American Legion, of which he was past commander, were: Dr. W. Y. Wilkinson, J. U. Grimsley, Roy Young, W. L. Lamb, William Belote, George Hawthorne.

E. W. Cox Funeral Home in charge.

Sheriff Prevents Lynching

ALBANY, Ga. — (CNS) —An attempt was made last week by a lynch-mob to take away from Sheriff O. F. Tarver and his deputy, A. J. Denson, Shep Bruner, who is accused of assault on a white woman. The attempt, however, was frustrated by the sheriff and his deputy, who threatened to shoot to kill anyone who tried to take away the prisoner.

6/4/32

Sheriff Prevents Georgia Lynching

6-4-32

ALBANY, Ga. — (CNS) — An attempt was made last week by a lynch-mob to take away from Sheriff O. F. Tarvar and his deputy, A. J. Denson, Shep Bruner who is accused of assault on a white woman. The attempt however, was frustrated by the sheriff and his deputy who threatened to shoot to kill anyone who tried to take away the prisoner.

Bruner was being taken to the house of the ~~woman in the case~~ to be identified as the man who committed the act when the attempt was made. The mob was disarmed by the sheriff who retraced his steps to the jail with his prisoner.

Names of those in the mob, together with other information, will be turned over to the grand jury by Sheriff Tarver. Dougherty county enjoys a 75 year old record of never having a lynching to take place within its borders.

Negro Attack Suspect Arrested In Rome, Ga.

Advertiser

Montgomery Ala.

8/8/32

ROME, GA., Aug. 7.—(AP)—Walter Rowe, negro, suspected of attacking Mrs Dave Dover Saturday at her home near Ransome School house, in Bartow County, was captured this morning by fishermen on the Oostanaula River near here.

Mrs. Dover reported that a young negro came to her door and asked for a drink. She directed him to the well, and he then asked for work. Told that she had none, the negro attacked her with the butt end of a pistol, beating her severely over the head. Her screams brought neighbors and the negro fled.

Clothing which the negro left after making a change at his home fit the description of that worn by the woman's assailant. Rowe was taken to Atlanta for safekeeping.

REWARD SHERIFF WHO SAVED NEGRO

East Tennessee News

SAVANNAH, Ga.—In recognition of prompt and effective efforts for the protection ofa Negro prisoner from threatened mob violence, Sheriff Sid Howell, of Early county, Georgia, was presented here Thursday, with the $100 gold medal annually awarded by the Atlanta Constitution to the Georgia officer "who has performed the most meritorius piece of work during the preceding year." 6/16/32

Sheriff Sid Howell was selected for this award by the State Association of Sheriffs and Peace Officers and the medal was conferred by the president of the association, Chief of Police Ben T. Watkins of Macon.

Sheriff Howell, determined that Early county should not be disdraced by another lynching, acted with great promptness and good judgment in getting the accused into safe keeping in another county, and on his return for trial deputized and armed a large body of responsible citizens for his protection.

FORSYTH sheriff averts lynching by quickly jailing J. L. Mitchell, Negro photographer who shot down Willie MacMaynard, prominent bachelor who [illegible] him. Victim is cousin of E. W. [illegible]

Telegraph
[illegible]

Lynchings—1932
Prevented

Georgia County and Peace Officers Association Award.
6

3776

SHERIFF SID HOWELL.

Sheriff of Early County Gets Medal for Courage

Constitution 6-3-32

SAVANNAH, Ga., June 2.—Sheriff Sid Howell, of Early county, was presented with The Atlanta Constitution gold medal for meritorious police work at the annual convention of the Georgia County and Peace Officers Association which met here today. The medal, worth $100, annually is presented by the Atlanta newspaper to the Georgia officer "who has performed the most meritorious piece of police work during the preceding year," the honoree being selected by the association.

Atlanta, Ga.

Sheriff Howell was selected for the award at the 1931 annual meeting last June for the most outstanding police work for the year ended June 1, 1931. Presentation of the award was made by Chief of Police Ben T. Watkins, of Macon, president of the association, who announced that the newspaper will continue for another year at least its policy of paying recognition to peace officers whose work merits such attention.

"It is hardly necessary for our organization to voice our deeply-felt appreciation of the interest that The Atlanta Constitution is taking in our work," said Chief Watkins, "and to say again that this award and the attending publicity of the acts for which it is presented is a valuable stimulus to Georgia law enforcement. In saying this I am sure that I voice the sentiment of the entire association."

Intelligence, courage and caution displayed by Sheriff Howell were cited as the basis for the 1931 award. On the night of December 14, 1930, the Early county sheriff was called upon to arrest Edgar Jenkins, a negro, accused of an assault upon two small white girls. Hitherto every negro accused of such a crime in Early county had been lynched, according to records.

Constitution 6-3-32

Sheriff Howell went to the home of the father of the two children and exacted a promise from the parent not to say anything about the crime until he had placed Jenkins under arrest. Within three hours Sheriff Howell had the negro in jail at Blakely, a confession from the accused man clearing away all doubt, and before the news became generally known he had taken the negro to jail in another county.

Atlanta Ga.

As soon as the crime became known throughout the county great excitement prevailed and talk of lynching was current. But with the negro safely in jail, Sheriff Howell requested the circuit judge to call a special term of court to conduct an early trial. The judge informed the sheriff that he would not convene such a court unless he had reasonable assurance that the prisoner would not be molested when brought to Early county for trial. Thereupon Sheriff Howell called a mass meeting at the court house, including even those whom he recognized as most likely to agitate a lynching mob. At the meeting the sheriff frankly laid before the citizens the harmful effects of mob law and got the pledge of every man present to support him in preventing an outbreak of violence.

A trial was called immediately with the courthouse guarded by a large deputization of citizens and the negro, although he had confessed, was represented by three attorneys appointed by the court. He was convicted and sentenced to be electrocuted January 16, 1931, on which date the sentence was executed. Immediately after the trial Sheriff Howell conveyed the negro to jail in another county where he was kept until his removal to the state prison.

The committee recommending the award to Sheriff Howell said:

"From the beginning to the end of this affair Sheriff Howell kept his own counsel, taking no one into his confidence as to his handling of the matter. He moved quickly whenever it was necessary to have the prisoner in his custody. No one knew how he got the negro back to Blakely on the day he was tried, and when he left with him after the trial, as stated, he was under heavy guard.

"Early county had heretofore had a number of lynchings and several outbreaks of mob violence on the part of whites directed toward negroes. It was freely predicted by numbers of people, in fact it was the general belief that this negro would be lynched. That he was not is a source of much gratification to the law-abiding citizens of our county."

Russell Speaks.

The association began its annual convention here this morning, heard Governor Richard B. Russell Jr. address them on the need of courage in state and county affairs and began the more formal business of the convention in the afternoon in group meetings.

Speakers of the initial session also included Henry D. Pollard, president of the Central of Georgia Railway, who spoke on the general problems of railroads; B. T. Castellow, solicitor-general of Cuthbert, who addressed himself to conditions past and present; and Ben T. Watkins, Macon, president of the association.

Welcomes to the convention were extended by Judge George W. Tiedeman, chairman of Chatham county commissioners, and Mayor Thomas M. Hoynes, of Savannah.

Georgians should demonstrate some of the courage their forefathers exhibited when they founded the colony and carved a great civilization out of the wilderness, declared Governor Russell. The state of Georgia has the resources of an empire, he said, and to be made an empire state in times of depression they should put their shoulders to the wheels and push together for its advancement.

Cause of Depression.

He advocated a law to compel international bankers to have the indorsement of the government on foreign securities they propose to sell in this country. Because of stupendous losses in foreign government and industrial bonds, this country is staggering under a depression, he said. Billions invested in improving foreign industries and loaned to foreign nations and municipalities, if retained in this country and invested in American industry and for the improvement of American cities, would have eliminated depression, he said.

Georgia's vast natural resources will play a great part in the certain advancement of the state to a foremost position in the nation, he said.

"As representative citizens of your counties," President Pollard told the association, "you should protect the railroads. More than half the taxes of many counties come directly from the railroads that run across them. The railroads are the biggest taxpayers in Georgia. They should be preserved, else your individual communities will suffer greatly."

Castellow said he believed things are made too easy for the people of the United States. He said that if the people had to work as hard for the protection of their lives as their forefathers did, there would be no depression. He advocated getting down to hard work. The convention concludes tomorrow.

Identification Bureau.

Sheriffs and chiefs of police attending the convention today voted unanimously to petition the legislature to establish a state criminal identification bureau.

Chief Watkins, of Macon, president of the association and expert on criminology, and Commissioner John E. Foy, of Savannah, presided jointly at the group meeting.

Chief Watkins pointed out that a bureau could be established on an appropriation of only $30,000. This would include finger-printing, rouges galleries and other apparatus for the expert cataloging of criminals.

He pointed out that the state spent $30,109,349.99 during 1931, exclusive of federal appropriations for vocational educational and highways, and not one cent, he said, went for police work or crime prevention.

The sheriffs of small counties and chiefs of small towns and villages would have the advantage of expert criminologists in the tracking down of criminals without cost to them. He said that all the money the individual sheriffs spend comes out of their own pockets and with a state bureau to aid them in crimes of mystery they would greatly increase the number of criminals convicted.

Clerks of superior courts in another group meeting advocated changing the filing costs for divorce petitions from $6 to $10, but voted down a proposal for establishing uniform fees for the recording of federal seed loan mortgages. J. H. Lankford, of Watkinsville, presided at this meeting.

OFFICERS REFUSE TO GIVE UP NEGRO

Telegraph

Dougherty Authorities Reveal Attempt by Armed Men to Take Shep Bruner

Macon, Ga.

ALBANY, Ga., May 16.—Dougherty county's record of never having had a lynching in its 75 years of existence was preserved intact Sunday due to the courage of Sheriff O. E. Tarver and his chief deputy, A. J. Denson, it became known Monday when details of a frustrated attempt to wrest Shep Bruner, Negro, accused of attempted assault, from them was made public.

Bruner was arrested Friday afternoon and placed in the county jail accused of attempting a criminal assault on a young white woman residing in the western part of the county. Sunday the sheriff and his deputy started to carry the Negro to the house of the young woman for purposes of identification. As they approached the house where the young woman resides, the officers said anothre car rolled up carrying four armed men who demanded that the prisoner be turned over to them.

5-17-32

Disarm Men

The officers promptly relieved the men of their guns and informed them that there was going to be no lynching, that Dougherty county's reputation was going to be preserved as it had been in the past.

Rather than risk another encounter, the officers retraced their course and returned Bruner to jail.

They plan to bring the young woman to the jail at a later date and let her see if she can identify the Negro.

Sheriff Tarver stated Monday that he and Mr. Denson know the names of the four men and have in their possession the guns taken from them. The information and the guns will be turned over to the next grand jury, he stated.

A PEACE OFFICER'S DUTY.

Constitution 6-3-32 Atlanta Ga.

The broad scope of the responsibilities of the peace officers of the state is emphasized by the character of the service which won for Sheriff Sid Howell, of Early county, the medal offered annually by The Constitution for the most outstanding and meritorious act during the year of any guardian of law and order in Georgia. The presentation was made Thursday at the convention of the Georgia County and Peace Officers' Association in Savannah.

The Constitution's medal is presented each year to an officer selected by a special committee of the Georgia County and Peace Officers' Association, not only that the officer may receive proper acknowledgment of his courage but that a full conception of the extent of their responsibilities may be aroused among all those charged with the preservation of law and order.

A peace officer must be more than brave and fearless. He must combine sound judgment with the ability to act swiftly so that the indignation of the public may not be aroused over delay in meting out justice to those guilty of crime.

Until 1931 every instance of rape in Early county was followed immediately by a lynching, but this unbroken and damaging record was brought to an end by Sheriff Howell. Acting swiftly, he arrested a rapist, secured a confession and spirited the negro away to safety in another county.

On his own volition he called a mass meeting of citizens who pledged their assistance in preventing violence, secured the calling of an immediate special term of court, at which the prisoner was given a fair trial and sentenced to the electric chair, which sentence was carried out on the date set by the court.

Thus the law was vindicated and a revolting crime avenged just as surely and almost as swiftly as if lynch law had been permitted to take its course with its demoralizing effect on the community.

Sheriff Howell's conduct in this instance offers a shining example of public service.

Reward Sheriff Who Saved Prisoner From Death by Georgia Mob

Call 6-10-32

SAVANNAH.—(ANP) —In recognition of prompt and effective efforts for the protection of a Negro prisoner from the threatened mob violence, Sheriff Sid Howell, of Early county, Georgia, was presented here Thursday, with the hundred dollar gold medal annually awarded by the Atlanta Constitution to the Georgia officer "who has performed the most meritorious piece of work during the preceding year."

Kansas City

Sheriff Howell was selected for this award by the State Association of Sheriffs and Peace Officers and the medal was conferred by the president of the association, Chief of Police Ben T. Watkins of Macon. Sheriff Howell, determined that Early county should not be disgraced by another lynching, acted with great promptness and good judgment in getting the accused into safe keeping in another county, and on his return for trial deputized and armed a large body of responsible citizens for his protection.

Indiana.

Lynchings-1932

Prevented

3778

PRESS
HUNTINGTON, IND.

MAY 25 1932

ANOTHER Marion negro, kept in the county jail here for the past week to prevent mob violence, has been sentenced to the state prison. He is alleged to have attacked a young negro girl. This time, instead of whites seeking to take the law in their hands and lynching the man, the negroes formed the mob and sought to "get their man." The negro, while in the county jail here, refused to talk or to eat. He appeared to be very penitent, as he should have been, if he committed the crime of which he was accused. The interesting thing about the whole matter is that in this particular case the negroes sought to become judge and jury and lynch the man. One of their own race had been ravaged by the man, they claimed. The negroes, so many times victims of the white man's noose, appear to feel that in some cases this is good medicine. Or, perhaps, they feel that they should show the white man that they can take care of their own dirty linen when it needs laundering. It is rather surprising that they should seek to resort to the same mob tactics, but it is interesting to observe how members of another race react when one of their own number has been victimized. The whole incident should make an interesting study for gentlemen who delve into the realms of mob psychology and for those organizations which devote their entire energies to the prevention of lynchings of negroes by whites.

Lynchings-1932

Kentucky.

3779

Prevented

NEW YORK
GRAPHIC

FEB 20 1932

2 Fight Off 3

Balk Lynchers

Hiseville, Ky., Feb. 20 (UP).—Two farmers fought off thirty infuriated men to save Lawrence Buford, 35-year-old Negro, from lynchers.

They were critically wounded.

Buford had fired two shots into the body of Max C. Maggard, a white man, during a quarrel over dice.

Negro Shot

The Negro was shot and severely beaten before he was dragged from a throng of attackers by Will Nichols and Charlie Alexander, farmers.

Bill Depp, 24, was charged with shooting Buford. He was released on $500 bond.

NEW YORK
Illustrated News

FEB 20 1932

2 FARMERS SHOT FOILING LYNCHERS

Hiseville, Ky., Feb. 19 (U.P.).—Two farmers today fought off thirty infuriated men to save Lawrence Buford, 35, colored, from lynchers. They were critically wounded. Buford had fired two shots into the body of Max C. Maggard, a white man, during a quarrel over dice. The colored man was shot and severely beaten before he was dragged from a throng of attackers by Will Nichols and Charlie Alexander, farmers.

Hazard, Ky. Herald
Thursday. March 3. 1932

Negro Moved To Prevent Lynching

Slayer Rushed From Jenkins To Whitesburg. Later Taken To Harlan.

Mob violence was threatened in Letcher county Saturday night following the killing of Adam Moore, age 30, at Jenkins, by Beboriia Beaby, a Negro miner. Quick action on the part of James Caudill, police judge, prevented mob action.

Caudill, with a heavy guard, rushed Beaby to Whitesburg, and when it later developed that the enraged men were following the slayer, Beaby was moved to Harlan.

It is said that several Negroes engaged in gambling produced the trouble that resulted in the killing. Moore was shot seven times.

Moore leaves a wife and two children. His body was taken to his old home at Logan, W. Va., for funeral and burial services.

National Guard Protects Court Room As White Is Tried For Negro's Murder

MANCHESTER, Ky.—(CNS).—Hugh Hornsby, white, is on trial for his life in connection with the fatal shooting of Alfred Neal, colored. According to prosecution witnesses, all white, Hornsby and a group of five white men attacked Neal on the Main street of the town and shot him at least seven or eight times, then walked away.

Hornsby, however, denies this and says he was walking down the street and saw a group of men unknown to him come out from behind a tree and shoot Neal five or six times. He claims that he did not know the man was Neal. Two other white men are indicted with him. They are George Baker and Wiley Baker.

Hornsby was positively identified as a member of the murder gang by several witnesses. One of the witnesses at former hearings has since been shot, almost on the very spot where Neal met his death. The man was Police Judge C. P. Stivers. Several persons have been indicted for his murder.

Alleged threats against the lives of other witnesses and defendants resulted in the trial judge's request for protection by the Kentucky National Guard which is now on guard at the court house as the trial proceeds.

Louisiana.

3780

Lynchings-1932

Prevented.

5/32

COMBINATION LOCK FOILS MOBBISTS

Coushatta, La., May ___ (By The Associated Negro Press)---A group of white men traveling in eight automobiles from the direction of Natchitoches parish came to Coushatta in an effort to obtain custody of Louis Judd, held in jail here on a charge of slaying P. J. Ballard, Powhatan planter. The men drove to the home of Deputy Sheriff L. L. Bailey and demanded the keys to the parish jail here, telling Bailey:

"We will take care of Judd if you will turn the keys over to us."

This the deputy refused to do, telling the men that even if they secured the keys to the jail they could not get to the prisoner as his cell was equipped with a combination lock. They made no further attem

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MOB VIOLENCE IS AVERTED

Negro Slayer Spirited Away as Crowd Mutters Threats.

LAKE CHARLES, La., Aug. 8.—(UP)—Spirited from town amid mutterings of an angry mob, Joe Woods, identified by Mrs. Pearl Casey as the negro who clubbed her 23-year-old companion to death and attempted to assault her last night, was held in an undisclosed jail tonight.

Mrs. Casey, a widow, and Allen J. Fruge, were accosted by a negro while walking in an isolated rural section, late yesterday. Fruge was struck over the head with an iron bar, suffering a fractured skull. He died in a hospital several hours later.

Woods was captured after an all-night chase. Shortly after he was brought to the Caleasieu Parish prison here a crowd of more than 75 men gathered about the jail. There were shouts of "Get him" and authorities spirited the negro away.

Mob Members Accused After Assault Arrest

LAKE CHARLES, La., Aug. 9.—(UP)—Charges of inciting to riot will be filed against members of a mob which surrounded the jail here Monday after the arrest of George Woods, negro, identified as the man who clubbed a young man to death and then attempted to assault his woman companion, authorities announced today.

8/10/32

Woods was spirited to an unannounced jail after a crowd of 75 angry men gathered here. He had been identified by Mrs. Pearl Casey, young widow, who said the negro struck Allen J. Fruge, 23, her companion, with an iron pipe and then attempted to criminally assault her. The negro was captured after an all-night hunt by possemen.

Charges of murder and rape were filed against Woods today.

TIMES
NEW PHILADELPHIA, O.

AUG 9 1932

AR LYNCHING OF NEGRO SLAYER

Lake Charles, La., Aug. 9, (UP)—A negro accused of clubbing a man to death and attempting to attack his woman companion was held in an unrevealed jail today to frustrate mob violence. The accused man, Joe Woods, was identified by Mrs. Pearl Casey, a widow, as the one who fatally beat her escort. Allen J. Fruge.

Lynchings-1932
Prevented

Maryland

CONVICTED MAN WHIZZED AWAY TO FOUL MOB

Afro-American
1/9/32

Spectators Locked in Courtroom Until Davis is en route to Balto.

JUDGE DISSENTS

Judge T. J. Keating Opposed Verdict of Guilt.

ELKTON, Md.—After deliberating for approximately 45 minutes, three judges who heard the evidence in the case of George Davis, 27, accused of attempted rape upon Mrs. Elizabeth Lusby, white, of Kennedyville, returned a verdict of guilty and the man was sentenced to 16 years in the Maryland Penitentiary.

Judge T. J. Keating announced from the bench that he dissented from the verdict.

Five minutes after the verdict was announced Davis was en route to Baltimore in charge of Baltimore City detectives and surrounded by a corps of state police.

All spectators who had heard the verdict were locked in the court room, and the crowds milling about the streets in the vicinity of the court house were ignorant of the verdict until the doors were opened 15 minutes later by which time Davis was being whizzed toward Baltimore in the high-powered police car with a car containing patrolmen blazing the trail.

Davis was not put on the stand by W. Hynson Rogers and J. H. C. Legge, his attorneys, during the presentation of the defense's case. He did appear previously at the request of the state's attorney in an effort to clear up details relative to the signing of a confession that was later offered in evidence, which climaxed the case for the prosecution. At this time he appeared extremely nervous and talked [illegible].

He has a well-proportioned though [illegible] built physique, with an ex- [illegible]

attack and subsequent actions [illegible] was scared."

Made Confession

The statement of Davis was entered after an argument which took up the greater part of the morning session.

It recites how he was captured in Wilmington, Del., at 1127 Wilmer Street by Sheriff Vickers, of Easton, who took him back to Easton jail where he made his confession.

He went to the home of Mrs. Lusby at five a.m., Saturday, November 5. He went upstairs, sat on the edge of the bed and when Mrs. Lusby woke up he told her:

"I am not going to hurt you. Do not yell."

She told him to go downstairs and find her husband and he would give him employment. He then seized her and they began to tussle over the bed and on the floor. He admitted he tore her gown and then ran out of the room, downstairs and to Kennedyville.

He went to the home of his uncle, Edward Davis and asked him to loan him money to escape. When the uncle refused he then hailed a truck driven by Morris Turner, who took him to Wilmington where he stayed in the home of Ida Jones until he was captured.

The statement recites that he made the statement without coercion or without promise in the office of Prosecutor Mulligan.

Secret Session

Mrs. Lusby did not appear in court at all. Her testimony was taken in private session with only the judges, prosecutors and attorneys in attendance. While her statement was not made public, references to her testimony during the course of the argument revealed bits of her story.

It appeared that she stated that she was aroused at 5 a.m. on the morning of the alleged assault and saw Davis sitting upon her bed. He asked her to try to get her husband to give him his old job back. Davis had worked for the Lusbys from August until about two weeks prior to the incident.

She advised him to seek her husband in the barn. "And then he mumbled something under his breath," the testimony says, "and placed his hand upon me. He told me not to yell as he would not hurt me. He then mumbled something else, I could not catch what he said, but he added, 'Don't be afraid, as I always do this to the women I work for before I leave.'

"I jumped out of bed and he seized me and threw me on the bed and we tussled on the floor and he tore my gown. The baby woke up and I ran into another room. He went downstairs but came back and called me by name. Later he went away again."

In referring to Mrs. Lusby's testimony, Prosecutor S. Scott Beck said, "It was given without bitterness or thought of revenge."

Ask Death Penalty

Prosecutors S. Scott Beck, State Senator from Kent County, Stephen R. Collins, state's attorney for Kent County, and Edward E. Rollins, state's attorney for Cecil County, all made urgent pleas for the imposition of the death penalty.

The former declared that the death penalty should be imposed because Mrs. Lusby had gone through the agonies of hell and although the act was not completed she would carry the scar of that experience to her grave.

Prosecutor Collins said that the state could not afford to draw a distinction between an actual rape and an attempt simply because the good God above intervened to prevent a perpetration of the crime.

Attorneys for Davis attempted to establish intoxication as the only defense. In his plea, Attorney Legge lauded the fairness and impartiality of the judges of the second judicial district, which comprises the Eastern Shore, and declared that he believed in their desire to see justice done, the Evening Sun to the contrary.

He was loud in his praise of the Eastern Shore and the men who had occupied the bench for the past fifty years.

Statement of Judge Adkins

In rendering his decision, Chief Judge William H. Adkins said that he believed that the liquor that Davis had been imbibing on the previous night did motivate his actions. He believed that the accused did not have an attack of a sexual nature in his mind when he entered the room, but with his mind befuddled from intoxicants, he might have gone in to remonstrate with her husband about employment.

This was evidenced by the first question he asked. It is possible, the judge pointed out, that the situation itself caused his passions and lust to arise and he did make suggestions to Mrs. Lusby.

When she in her fright leaped out of bed he might have seized her to prevent her from leaping from the window or causing a disturbance which would aggravate the situation.

"In a matter of practical justice," the judge declared, "it becomes necessary to assume that there was intent to do evil just as in divorce cases where a married woman puts herself in a position that can be construed as the intent to engage in illicit relationship.

"To inflict the death penalty in such a case, however, would not be in the interest of public policy. Such a verdict would place the accused beyond redemption. This man, after realizing that he had done wrong, came back and called her politely by name and sought to apologize. We do not find in this case a fiendish act such as is so often found in such cases and no evidences of excessive brutality.

"If we take the view that the attempt to rape should be punished to the full extent of the law, we would establish a precedent that would show that we have been wrong in the administration of the law all along. It would show that we have been wrong in dealing with attempts to murder. The intent is just as bad in one case as in the other.

"We think it in the best interests of public policy to sentence George Davis to 16 years in the Maryland Penitentiary."

Just before rendering the verdict, Judge Adkins warned the spectators against any demonstration and ordered officers to arrest any person who made any comment.

Twenty-two state policemen headed by Captain Edward McK. Johnson and Lieut. Ruxton Ridgely, twenty deputy sheriffs recruited from Kent and Cecil Counties and twelve Baltimore detectives, accompanied by Charles D. Gaither, police commissioner; Capt. Charles H. Burns, of the Detective Bureau, and Detective Lieutenant James P. Downs, pistol expert, were on duty in the town several hours before the trial began at 9:30 A.M.

AFRO reporters and camerman were barred from the court room and protests were immediately filed with Chief Judge Adkins and with Sheriff Buckworth. The latter said the ban was instituted without his knowledge.

Five minutes after the receipt of the AFRO's telegram, Chief Judge Adkins sent the sheriff for AFRO reporters and had them admitted to the court room.

NEGRO SAVED FROM LYNCHERS SENT TO PRISON

Chicago Tribune
1/6/32

Maryland Rapist Gets Quick Trial.

Elkton, Md., Jan. 5.—[Special.]—George Davis, Negro farm hand, was tried and convicted in six hours here today of attempting to rape the wife of Edgar Lusby of Chestertown, Kent county. The case was removed from Kent county to Cecil county because it was feared that violence might be attempted if the prisoner were arraigned in Chestertown.

Davis chose to be tried without a jury and Judges Lewin W. Wickes, T. J. Keating and William H. Atkins heard the case, promptly found him guilty and imposed a sentence of sixteen years in the penitentiary. There was no disturbance.

Although he had pleaded not guilty, Davis admitted at the trial that he had signed a confession and the signed document was admitted in evidence.

Guard Against Violence.

The Negro was brought to Elkton early today from the Baltimore city jail where he had been held for protection, and immediately after the trial and sentence he was hurried to a prison van and removed to the state prison under heavy guard.

On the night of Nov. 23 several hundred persons, one of whom had a coiled rope over his arm, descended on the jail in Chestertown and demanded the prisoner. State's Attorney Coldnes pleaded with the mob to disperse, but they lingered until Sheriff Vickers escorted a delegation through the jail and proved to them that Davis was not there.

He had been whisked away to the Talbot county jail at Easton. That same night crowds called at the Easton jail and the jail at Elkton but were dispersed. On the following day Davis was taken to Baltimore.

Another Negro Faces Trial.

Yuel Lee, alias Orphane Jones, the eastern shore Negro whose case has caused disturbances in that section following the lynching of another Negro there, will be tried in Towson, Balimtore county, for the murder near Snow Hill of Green K. Davis, his wife and two daughters, a white family.

The threatening attitude of eastern shore residents toward the lawyer selected by the prisoner and the contention that he could not get a fair trial on the "shore" caused the change of venue, following a State Court of Appeals decision.

3781

Lynchings - 1932

Michigan

3782

Prevented

GIRL'S SLAYER GETS LIFE AT QUICK TRIAL

Times
New York

Michigan Man Is Sentenced After 40 Minutes in Court Day After Body Was Found.

8-5-32

LUDINGTON, Mich., Aug. 4 (AP).—The law moved rapidly today and sent Francis Nash, confessed killer of 17-year-old Evelyn Sanford, on his way to a life term in prison twenty-four hours after the girl's body was found buried in the cellar of a vacant house.

The 31-year-old bachelor, who was regarded as a semi-recluse in the village of Freesoil, was rushed through a closely packed crowd of spectators after Circuit Judge Hal J. Cutler had pronounced the severest sentence possible under Michigan law—life imprisonment in solitary confinement at hard labor.

State police started north with him in the direction of Marquette, where he will be confined in Michigan branch prison. They intended to stop at a county seat they would not name and wait until Sheriff George Colyer, who remained here until commitment papers were prepared, could catch up with them.

Miss Sanford, a pretty high school graduate, disappeared Saturday night as she walked along a lonely swamp road between Freesoil and her farm home, half a mile away.

After thorough search of the swamp failed to reveal a trace of her other than signs of a struggle, State police assumed charge of the inquiry and, on Tuesday, took Nash into custody.

Nash still was being questioned when the body was found yesterday. Several hours later he confessed.

State troopers rushed Nash into Ludington from Traverse City this morning. They moved through a crowd which watched closely but made no threats. He waived police court examination and was taken immediately before Judge Cutler.

He pleaded guilty and declined to take the witness chair in his own behalf. A few other matters of court routine procedure followed, and forty minutes after Nash was brought here he was under sentence of life imprisonment and en route to Marquette.

Lynchings-1932

Prevented

Mississippi

3783

From Meridian Star

Meridian, Miss

Date 4/21/32

Remove Forrest Negro For Safety; Fear Lynching

HATTIESBURG — Booker Clark, negro, charged with assault and battery by Mrs. J. Stines, Jr., living in the Rawls Springs neighborhood, after being placed in the Forrest county jail was removed to an unnamed jail as a matter of precaution, angry mutterings having been heard of an attempt to lynch the negro. Officers say Mrs. Stines had told them that Clark had appeared at her home and offered to clean her car. She told Clark that she had no money to pay for the work and declined to employ him. Later, Mrs. Stines said, while riding toward Rawls Springs the negro, driving another car, came up from behing, sounding his horn She gave him room to pass, Mrs. Stines said, when he ran in front of her car, blocking the roadway. Mrs. Stines said Clark began using abusive language and attempted to strike her. She informed officers and the arrest followed.

NEGRO HELD IN ATTACK IS SAVED FROM MOB

Commercial Appeal

Memphis Tenn.

Monroe County Officials Carry Suspect to Safety.

6-21-32

AMORY, Miss., June 20.—(AP)—Quick action of Monroe County officers in removing a negro suspected in connection with a criminal attack on a white woman, today thwarted threatened mob violence here.

Charley Owen, the negro, was spirited to an unannounced jail after reports that a mob was gathering reached officers.

The attack occurred at Aberdeen Junction, near here, yesterday. Owen was taken into custody at Carbon Hill, Ala., by two Monroe County officers and brought to Amory last night.

TWO MOBS THWARTED BY SHERIFF IN PIKE

Commercial Appeal

Negro Attacker Is Hurriedly Carried to Another Jail.

10-4-32

Memphis Tenn.

M'COMB, Miss., Oct. 3.—While mobs were converging from two directions upon the Pike County jail at Magnolia, near here, to obtain a negro held on a charge of assaulting a Kentwood, La., woman, Sheriff Statham, of Pike, hurriedly left in an automobile tonight with the prisoner for an unannounced destination.

Members of the mobs from Kentwood and McComb sought to intercept the sheriff's car near here, but the officer had eluded them tonight at 9:30 o'clock and was believed safely on his way to an adjoining county.

The negro is said to have surprised a couple from Kentwood, parked this side of the Mississippi line, last Thursday and assaulted the woman after threatening the man with a pistol. He was arrested at Kentwood next day and brought to Magnolia fo rsafekeeping at that time.

The negro, whose name was not immediately available here tonight, is said to have served a prison term for robbery and also to be an escaped Pike County convict. Officers refused to divulge the name of the Kentwood couple.

Nude Body Of Woman Found; Negro Is Held

Advertiser

9-24-32

MERIDIAN, MISS., Sept. 23.—(AP)—The nude body of Miss Jerline McNeill 40, of Philadelphia, Miss., was found in a ditch near the highway, five miles from her home today. She had been stabbed in the breast and her body hidden with brush.

Montgomery Ala.

A negro known as Rogers or Dudley Roberts, who was trailed by bloodhounds, was taken into custody at his home nearby where police said they found bloody clothing and a sawed-off shotgun. He was spirited away to an unannounced jail for safekeeping.

Miss McNeill disappeared last night when she went to look for cows.

See "matter under "Killings" for trouble at Senatobia, Oct. 16. Letter sent to Miss Parrott, Feb 2, 1933.

Missouri

3784

Lynchings - 1932
Prevented

Officers Twice Balk Efforts at Lynching

Constitution

Aug/10/32

NEW MADRID, Mo., Aug. 9.—(AP) Efforts of a mob to take Clim Houston, 17-year-old negro accused of attempting to assault a [illegible]-year-old white girl, from the county jail here shortly before midnight last night were thwarted when Deputy Sheriff Sam Harris told the mob the negro had been removed.

Atlanta
Ga.

The negro actually was taken to the Cape Girardeau county jail at Jackson two hours later when the mob had dispersed. An earlier attempt of a mob to take the negro was thwarted by state highway patrolmen who held the men back while the negro was being escorted here from Charleston where he was first held.

ST. LOUIS, MO.
TIMES
AUG 10 1932

THESE SHERIFFS WERE THE RIGHT STUFF

The sheriff of Mississippi County and the sheriff of New Madrid, helped by the new state police, have saved Missouri from the shame of another lynching. The Mississippi County sheriff got his man over the line while state police delayed a gathering mob. The sheriff of New Madrid took the prisoner, accused of an attempted attack on a white girl, and left with him for Cape Girardeau. The mob, before it had time to reach dangerous proportions, was given the slip.

Nobody knows for certain whether this Negro prisoner is the right man. But that seldom makes any difference with a party of lynchers. Its members string their victim up as an "example" anyhow. That is one reason why the civilized world condemns lynching. In this case there will be a chance to weigh the evidence before trial. A miscarriage of justice is no longer likely.

Southeastern Missouri has had race trouble occasionally in recent years. An influx of Negroes from the South to the cotton fields caused antagonism on the part of whites who felt they were displaced. On top of that have been ruinous drainage taxes, bank failures, foreclosures, drouth and want. No section of Missouri has been more hardly dealt with, although in agricultural possibilities, it is the richest part of the state. It is to the credit of the people of this region that they have kept their heads up through it all. There have been no outbreaks. County officials enforce the laws and the great majority of the people back them up. In this case nobody will have occasion to apologize and there will be no opportunity for a whitewash of officials derelict in their duties. A medal to the sheriffs of Mississippi and New Madrid Counties instead.

Lynchings-1932

North Carolina.

3786

Prevented

Raleigh, N. C. News and Observer
Thursday, November 24, 1932

SHERIFF OF HAYWOOD PREVENTED LYNCHING

The action of Sheriff J. A. Lowe of Waynesville, in preventing possible mob violence some months ago, was commended at the meeting of the Central Council of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching which was held in Atlanta during the past week-end.

News of the praise given Sheriff Lowe was just made public here when delegates to the meeting returned to the city.

It was pointed out that the sheriff, seeing that a mob was being formed with the apparent purpose of lynching a Negro under arrest for killing a deputy, spirited the Negro away to safety in the Buncombe county jail, according to reports.

The purpose of the movement undertaken by Southern women is to educate for law observance. Already more than 7,000 individuals have affiliated with the movement, which is being spread through churches and other institutions and organizations of the South.

At the meeting in Atlanta, the women adopted the slogan, "A lynchless year for 1933." Special attention was called to the project in Mississippi. That State has not had a lynching this year, although it formerly led in the number of acts of mob violence.

Lynchings - 1932

Prevented.

North Carolina

3791

MOB SEEKS NEGROES

Commercial Appeal

Men Dispersed When Shown Slayers Not in Jail.

GASTONIA, N. C., May 7.—(AP) —A mob gathered before the Gaston County jail early today and demanded two negroes who are charged with killing Harold Carter, 18, filling station operator, but dispersed when shown the negroes were not in the jail.

5-8-32

Alec Grier and Clyde Smith, the negroes, were removed to Charlotte yesterday. They were accused of killing Carter in a holdup of the filling station Sunday.

Memphis Tenn

Two men from the mob were allowed to go in the jail and see that the negroes were not there. The jailer said that there were at least 5 men in the mob, most of them masked and heavily armed.

Mob Leaves when Shown Empty Jail

Afro American

5-14-32

GASTONIA, N.C.— After being shown an empty jail, a mob of men who sought two men charged with killing a filling station attendant left the scene of the jail. The two, Alec Grier and Clyde Smith had been charged with killing Harold Carter, 18-year-old white youth in a filling station hold-up. They had been removed to Charlotte for safe keeping.

GASTONIA, N. C.
GAZETTE

SEP 19 [illegible]

Negro Narrowly Escapes Lynching

Chief Hoyle Rescues Emanuel Pressley From Crowd At Bessemer City And Brings Him To Gaston Jail—Ted Cole Held Under $500 Bond.

Quick work on the part of Chief of Police Bill Hoyle and his assistants shortly before noon today prevented a lynching at Bessemer City. They rescued Emanuel Pressley, 34, Bessemer negro, from the clutches of an angry mob and hurried him to the county jail here where he is being held for his protection, though no charge has been lodged against him.

Wrath against Pressley developed at the trial of Ted Cole, 33, Bessemer City white man, who was given a hearing before City Recorder J. R. Mason this morning on a charge of soliciting for immoral purposes. In the course of the trial testimony was introduced to the effect that Cole had made a date for Pressley with the inmate of a house of ill fame conducted by white women.

Immediately following the conclusion of the trial at the city hall, in which Cole was found guilty and bound over to Gaston Superior Court in the sum of $500, a sizable group of white men which had gathered around the city hall started out to locate the negro. They soon found him at Holden's garage, a couple of blocks from the city hall. Chief Hoyle and his assistants, however, appeared on the scene at just about the same time, took Pressley away from the mob, hustled him into an automobile and hurried to Gastonia with him.

Opinion expressed around Bessemer City shortly after noon today was to the effect that only the timely arrival of the officers, before the mob could organize, saved the negro's life and the town from having a lynching chalked up against it.

Pressley, it is stated, is a worthless character. A year or two ago he went away from Bessemer City with a white woman and remained away several months, returning to the town only recently.

Immediately after the trial of the case Cole was brought to the county jail here and is held in default of bond.

Lynchings-1932

Ohio

3792

Prevented

Two Youths Are Hurridly Removed from Jail

[illegible] 2-27-32

2-27-32

MASSILLON, Ohio.—When a 9-year-old girl, threatened with a spanking because she did not return home promptly from school, said a Negro man had lured her away, police scoured the Negro section of this steel town and eventually picked up a 13 and a 15 year old Negro boy. Both have been in jail for two weeks now, the International Labor Defense has been informer, but no official charges have been filed against them.

Cleveland Ohio

The two boys are David Palmer and Jimmy L. McDue. They were playing marbles near the home of Lois Rohr, the girl who says she was lured away. The girl is said to have declared she could not identify the boys, but police urged her to say it might have been they. A lynching mob was immediately formed of "respectable citizens" of Massillon; and the boys had to be hurriedly removed to Canton jail.

Lynchings-1932

South Carolina

3793

Prevented

FROM Morning News

Savannah

GEORGIA

DATE 5-25-32

NEGRO SAVED BY ALERT OFFICERS

FRIGHTENS YOUNG GIRL

Posses In Two Counties Search For Him

WALTERBORO, S. C., May 24. — Much excitement was caused this morning by news which spread rapidly over this and Bamberg counties of an alleged assault which was said to have occurred near Little Swamp, just over the line of Colleton county. Crowds assembled and much of the day was spent scouring the swamps and woods around the Smoaks section, but with no success.

This afternoon the negro, Hezekiah Samuel was arrested by Constable Miles Murdaugh and brought to the Colleton county jail. Sheriff Lucas C. Padgett immediately sent the prisoner to the Bamberg authorities into whose custody the negro belonged and it is understood that they are sending him to the state penitentiary for safekeeping. Had he been caught in the vicinity of the alleged crime chances are he would have been severely dealt with.

Sheriff Hadwin, of Bamberg, and Deputy Sheriff Fennell, of Colleton county, aided in the hunt in the Little Swamp section. The story reported to have been told by the girl, 17 years of age, daughter of a well-known farmer of that section, is that she was alone at her home this morning with a younger brother when this negro came to the kitchen and when she saw him he was ravenously lapping from a pan of milk. She told him to leave the kitchen and she would give him something to eat which she did. She then ordered the negro off the place. He left and soon the little brother reported that he was returning. She went to the door and warned him to leave or she would shoot him and then she screamed for her father who was working in the field near the house. The negro then ran and took to the swamps.

The negro, when seen by your reporter, denied having done anything wrong and stated that he had asked the little boy for a piece of bread, having eaten nothing for an entire day, and the little girl came and gave him some bread and meat and then told him there was a severe German police dog on the place and he had better go, and when some distance from the house he heard the boy call for his father and that he had not retraced his steps to the house. This occurrence taking place within three miles of the recent killing of R. C. McMillan by the two negroes who are now in the penitentiary awaiting trial, was sufficient cause for the hasty gathering of citizens determined to wreak vengeance. Fortunately the negro escaped and had gone some twenty miles when caught by the constable.

Lynchings-1932
Prevented

Tennessee

3787

NEW YORK MIRROR

SEP 7 1932

Negro Prisoners Escape Mob Anger

LEBANON, Tenn., Sept. 6 (INS)—After threatening to storm the jail here despite the presence of National Guardsmen with machine guns, a mob of 500 farmers was dispersed today by news that the five negro prisoners they sought had been transferred to a Nashville prison.

Forming last night, the mob milled around the jail here demanding that Sheriff Ed Climer turn over to them the Negroes, held in connection with the slaying of Constables Ben Northern and Millard Brown.

N. Y. SUN

SEP 6 1932

LYNCHING PREVENTED

Sheriff Hides Prisoners Held in Killing.

LEBANON, Tenn., Sept. 6 (A. P.).—National Guardsmen arrived here early today to guard the jail from mob action by persons seeking five Negroes arrested in the slaying of two Wilson county constables.

Sheriff Ed Climer asked for protection late last night, announcing the mob had invaded the jail, but National Guard officers, arriving about 2:15 A. M., reported the situation quiet.

Constable Ben Northern and Special Constable M. E. Brown were killed on Sunday by shotgun fire as they approached a cabin to arrest George Oldham, eighteen-year-old Negro, on a charge of striking a white youth. Oldham escaped.

Sheriff Climer and a deputy forced three Negro men and two Negro women at the cabin to surrender. The men were concealed under the jail floor and later were hurried to Nashville for safe keeping.

Meanwhile, the two women were taken into the town square by the mob, but officers were able to prevent violence against them yesterday. The situation again became tense last night.

New York Evening Journal

SEP 6 1932

5 ESCAPE DEATH BY LYNCH MOB

LEBANON, Tenn., Sept. 6 (By International News Service).—After threatening to storm the jail here despite the presence of National Guardsmen with machine guns, a mob of 500 farmers was dispersed today by news that the five negro prisoners they sought had been transferred to a Nashville prison.

Forming last night, the mob milled around the jail demanding that Sheriff Ed Climer turn over to them the negroes, held in connection with the slaying of Constables Ben Northern and Millard Brown.

Climer appealed to the Governor for aid and 100 National Guardsmen were rushed to the jail, armed with rifles, machine guns and tear gas bombs.

There was no clash between the two forces.

N. Y. EVENING POST

SEP 6 1932

'LYNCHERS' RETURN PRISONERS TO JAIL

Tennessee Police Chief Persuades Mob to Give Up Seized Women

SHERIFF HIDES 3 MEN

LEBANON, Tenn., Sept. 6 (AP).—Quiet was restored here today and 100 National Guardsmen returned to their post at Nashville after a night of mob violence in which 500 men stormed the jail, seized two Negro women and threatened to lynch them for the slaying of two constables.

The crowd surged into the prison despite insistence by authorities that three Negro men held for killing Constable Ben Northern and Special Constable M. E. Brown had been removed to another jail.

Sheriff Ed Climer arrived in Nashville with the prisoners about the time the rush was made on the Lebanon jail.

The mob, however, seized the women who were arrested with the men at a cabin from which the constables were shot and took them to the public square.

There were shouts of "string 'em up," but Chief of Police Robert Gan and a number of men and women persuaded the crowd to return the prisoners to jail.

Reports then spread through the crowd that the Negro men were hidden in the county workhouse nearby and several hundred searched that building.

A call to Nashville for aid brought Colonel Otho Robinson, assistant adjutant general, and the troops, but the mob had dispersed when they arrived at 2:30 A. M. Sheriff Climer said he anticipated no further trouble.

Northern and Brown were shot as they approached the cabin to arrest George Oldham, eighteen - year - old Negro, for fighting a white boy. Oldham escaped and remained at liberty today.

When the mob stormed the jail, Sheriff Climer's wife collapsed and the crowd desisted long enough for an ambulance to remove her.

The sheriff foiled the mob through a ruse. With hundreds in the jail yard demanding entrance, he hid the men under a floor and let the mob search the cells. At nightfall, the prisoners were concealed in an automobile and hurried out of town.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.
EAGLE

SEP 6 1932

Seek to Lynch Five Negroes

Lebanon, Tenn., Sept. 6 (AP)—National Guardsmen arrived here early today to guard the jail from mob action by persons seeking five Negroes arrested in the slaying of two Wilson County constables.

Sheriff Ed Climer asked for protection last night, announcing the mob had invaded the jail, but National Guard officers, arriving about 2:15 a.m., reported the situation quiet.

Maj. J. R. Stark was instructed to place 35 guardsmen on duty.

Chattanooga, Tenn.
TIMES

SEP 6 1932

SHERIFF THWARTS LEBANON LYNCHERS

Hides Negroes Under Floors as Mob Swarms Jail.

Trio Accused of Slaying Officers Taken Safely to Nashville Afterwards.

LEBANON, Tenn., Sept. 5 (AP).—Three Negroes accused in connection with the slaying of two officers last night lay concealed all day beneath the flooring of the second floor of the county jail here, while several hundred men swarmed into the jailyard and delegations were led through the jail to convince them the Negroes had been removed.

Late this afternoon Sheriff Ed Climer took the three men to Nashville, where they were placed in the Davidson county jail, and told Sheriff L. A. Bauman, of Davidson county, of the ruse which had protected the Negroes until he could get them out of Lebanon.

Meantime the mob succeeded in getting two Negro women, arrested with the men, out of the jail and attempted to force them to tell where the men were hidden. Amid shouts of "string 'em up" Police Chief Robert Gann forced the crowd back at the point of a gun and returned the women to the jail.

Constable Ben Northern, 40, and several neighbors he had deputized, had gone to a Negro cabin in the county to arrest George Oldham, 18-year-old Negro, charged with striking a white youth.

Northern and M. E. Brown, about 50, serving as a special officer, were killed by shotgun fire from within the house, and a pistol bullet wounded Sam Smith, another special deputy, in the arm. As Ben Northern, Jr., started to his slain father a load of buckshot pierced his hat, but missed him.

Oldham was seated on the front porch, with a shotgun across his knees, when the officers arrived. He obeyed a command to drop the weapon, but when the constable started to pick it up some one thrust a shotgun through a crack in the door and killed him instantly. Brown was dropped by shotgun fire as he seized the fleeing Oldham, who escaped and was still at liberty tonight.

Sheriff Climer, accompanied by a deputy, responded to the call for aid, entered the cabin with shotguns and forced the three Negro men and two women occupants to throw up their hands. In dark recesses of the cabin they dropped tear gas bombs to make certain no one remained. Two shotguns and a pistol were found.

Climer said Jake Alexander, one of the prisoners, admitted killing Brown, but he had been unable to learn who shot Northern. The latter was slain two hours before his term as constable expired.

The two Negro women were kept in jail here and the crowd made no attempt to harm them.

NEAR LYNCHING DOES NOT STOP CAMPAIGN

Journal and Guide

Tennesseeans Attempt To Lynch 2 Women

9-17-32

3787

LEBANON, Tenn.— (ANP) —Lewis E. Pope, self-styled gubernatorial candidate of the white Democrats of Tennessee, opened his one-man, independent campaign for the office here last Saturday while the town was still hot with the spirit of a mob which had attempted to lynch three men and two women.

Norfolk, Va.

On Monday and Tuesday a wild riot had raged for hours while these savage townspeople had sought to find the men and lynch them. After the sheriff, Ed Climer had spirited the men away, the mob was allowed to enter the jail where it seized two women, dragged them to the outside near a tree, tore their clothes from them and cried "Lynch 'em! Lynch 'em," until they were dissuaded by cooler heads in the mob.

The women, bleeding, torn and beaten were returned to the jail.

They were Mrs. Mary Moore, 40-years-old and her 16-year-old daughter, Margie.

The men sought were Jake Alexander, his son, Charles, and James Martin. After their arrest and the riot of the mob, the men were taken to the prison at Nashville to protect them from murder.

All five persons had been arrested after Constable Ben Northern and a so-called "special deputy," M. E. Brown, had been slain at Alexander's home Sunday night.

It was necessary to send troops to the town before peace could be restored.

Journal and Guide

Pope, who spoke here to an overflow crowd containing many members of the [illegible], was defeated in the Democratic primary by Hill McAlister, who received most of the Negro vote. When the state primary board confirmed McAlister's nomination, Pope announced that he would run as a candidate of the white Democrats.

SUN

Jackson, Tenn

SEP 6 1932

Mob Storms Lebanon Jail; National Guard is Called; Excitement Has Subsided

By The Associated Press

LEBANON, Tenn., Sept. 6—After a night of excitement, during which a mob stormed the jail, seized two negro women prisoners and threatened to lynch them, the tense feeling resulting from the slaying of two officers subsided today and 100 hurriedly-summoned national guardsmen returned to Nashville.

The mob, numbering about 500, pushed into the jail despite assurances that three negro men accused in connection with the Sunday night slayings of Constable Ben Northern, 40, and M. E. Brown, 50, a deputized officer, had been removed. Sheriff Ed Climer had arrived in Nashville with the men at the time the crowd smashed its way into his jail.

Unable to find the men, the mob seized the two women arrested with them in the cabin where the officers were killed. The women were taken to a monument in the public square, where leaders questioned them about the whereabouts of their companions. As some members of the crowd shouted "String 'em up," Chief of Police Robert Gan pushed his way through and, aided by pleas of a number of women and some men, succeeded in obtaining release of the women and returning them to jail.

Reports that the men were secreted in the county workhouse led several hundred of the crowd there for a futile search.

A call for aid brought Col. Otho Robinson, assistant adjutant general, and a group of officers into Lebanon at 2:30 a. m., followed half an hour later by about 100 men. The mob had dispersed by this time and Sheriff Climer said he anticipated no further trouble "until the trial."

George Oldham, 18-year-old negro, whose striking of a white boy led to the killing of the officers, escaped during the shooting and was still at liberty today, despite a widespread search that included the inspection of automobiles on all roads in the county. Constable Northern and several neighbors he had deputized were attempting to arrest Oldham at the cabin when they were fired on from within.

The sheriff's wife, suffering from nervousness caused by the excitement, became so ill last night that it was necessary to remove her from the jail to a private home. The crowd massed about the jail gave way for the ambulance. She was reported today to be better and returned home.

Maggie Moore and her daughter, Maud, the women seized by the mob, were said at the jail today to be "awfully scared."

Sheriff Climer foiled the mob through a ruse. Several hundred had gathered before noon yesterday in the jail yard and demanded the three negroes. The sheriff had secreted them in a narrow opening under the second story floor, but insisted they had been taken to an unannounced jail.

Committees permitted to inspect the jail tramped over the hidden negroes, who lay in their narrow quarters until darkness fell last evening. Then, handcuffed and chained, the negroes were placed in the bottom of a car and rushed to Nashville.

TENNESSEE LYNCHINGS AVERTED BY TROOPS

Constitution

9-7-32

Two Negro Women Returned to Jail After Threats At Mob's Hands.

Atlanta Ga

LEBANON, Tenn., Sept. 6.—(AP)—After a night of excitement, during which a mob stormed the jail, seized two negro women prisoners and threatened to lynch them, the tense feeling resulting from the slaying of two officers subsided today and 100 hurriedly-summoned national guardsmen returned to Nashville.

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Unable to find the men, the mob seized the two women arrested with them in the cabin where the officers were killed. The women were taken to a monument in the public square, where leaders questioned them about the whereabouts of their companions. As some members of the crowd shouted "string 'em up," Chief of Police Robert Gan pushed his way through and, aided by pleas of a number of women and some men, succeeded in obtaining release of the women and returned them to jail.

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Tennessee's Gracious Mob

Afro Amer

9-17-32

Baltimore Md

Say what you please, the South has and always will be the home of chivalry. Knights, courtiers and beautifully mannered southern gentlemen there have ever regarded womanhood with utmost respect and consideration.

If you doubt this is true, consider Lebanon, Tennessee, where last week a mob of 500 white men stormed the county jail. Sheriff Climer's wife collapsed and the chivalrous crowd immediately desisted long enough for an ambulance to remove her.

What an evidence of gentility towards white womanhood!

Then the mob proceeded with its work. It surged through the prison seeking three colored men charged with killing a white constable.

Not finding them it snatched up three colored women, and dragged them to the public square amid cries of "String 'em up!"

The mob might have done it, too, but for the appeals of several persons who reminded those assembled that knighthood still blooms in the South, land of culture and intelligence.

So the mob did not lynch the women, but went away vowing they'd get the men who, although they did not know it, were hidden by the sheriff under the floor of the jail.

Let no one deny the great-heartedness of the South, its good breeding, its becoming manner, its courtly behavior, and above all, the dignity and restraint with which women are treated.

GUARDS FOIL ATTEMPTS OF RAVING CROWD

Given Orders to Fire on Line Breakers

Chicago Defender

9-10-32

Chicago Ill

LEBANON, Tenn., Sept. 9.—Fixed bayonets and machine guns in the hands of two companies of national guardsmen foiled the attempt of 1,500 white men and women to storm the Davidson county jail and lynch four members of the Race who are charged with killing two deputy sheriffs Labor day.

The national guardsmen, numbering a hundred or more, surrounded the jail with their fixed bayonets, and were ordered by Maj. J. R. Stark of Nashville to shoot anyone that attempted to break the line. To further assure the safety of the prisoners, Major Stark ordered machine guns trained on the crowd.

After milling around the jail for a whole day the angry whites returned to their homes when told that the four men had been spirited away during the night and are now lodged in the Nashville city jail.

Troops Ready for Mob

Although withdrawn from the Lebanon jail, the troops are being held under arms in Nashville ready to return if officers capture George Oldham, one of the alleged slayers of the two deputies.

The trouble started Labor day when Oldham and four of his friends were reported in an argument with a white boy. It is said one of the men gave the boy a spanking after the youth broke a window pane while throwing rocks. Urged by his parents, the boy swore to a complaint, and Deputies Ben Northern and Milton Brown went to George Oldham's home to serve a warrant.

Oldham and his four friends were seated on the front porch of his home when the deputies arrived. Oldham explained what happened. The officers refused to believe their stories and began cursing them. The climax was reached, however, when the deputies reached for their guns. Both officers were killed.

While Oldham fled his friends went to the police station and surrendered. News of the deputies' death spread like wildfire and within an hour more than 500 men and women were at the jail demanding that the four prisoners be turned over to them. They demanded the keys from J. E. Fields, brother-in-law of Sheriff E. W. Climer.

Fields did not know where the keys were. He denied also that he knew where the prisoners were.

The lives of the men were saved through the quick wits of Sheriff

mer, who hid the men under the ring of the jail and moved them another jail after he heard the ch threats. He also summoned th national guardsmen when the b seemed bent on storming the

Lynchings - 1932

Tennessee.

3788

Prevented

One Woman and a Mob

Mrs. J. C. Butler, Huntingdon, Tenn., and medal conferred by Commission on Interracial Co-operation in recognition of the effective resistance to mobs on the part of officers of the law. Below is her response:

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen, and Ladies and Friends: I would no be human if I failed to acknowledge with proper gratitude the hono you do me today, however unmerited it may be, and words fail m when I undertake to express my deep appreciation of what has bee said and done here in my honor. All my "talks" and lectures hav been delivered in my home to members of my family all my life I have had no experience whatever in speaking in public nor in tryin to speak to an audience, and I frankly confess that I am wors frightened now than when I confronted that mob a few months ago.

"It has always been my policy to try to do my duty under an and all circumstances. I did no more than my duty on the occasio when that mob undertook to enter and take from our jail a helples prisoner a few months ago. The law reposed in us a sacred trus when my husband, by virtue of his office, became the custodian of it unfortunate victims, and, while not a pleasant task sometimes to d so, it was our duty and our privilege and our pleasure to discharg that trust faithfully.

"If the humble effort I made helps in any way to advance th cause of law and order and orderly procedure in the disposition c those charged with crime, however odious the charge, then the firs desire of my heart is gratified.

"I want to thank Dr. Clarke and through him I want to thank th organization which he represents, and I assure them all that th

medal which they have given me for the little part I played in upholding the law will be placed among my most sacred keepsakes, not for exploiting any deed of my own, but that I may be often reminded that my act may have helped in some degree to bring about ever relations between the races that inhabit our country, that will lly result in greater respect for justice, for law and order. I thank ou."

On the night of April 18, 1931, a mob gathered about the Carroll C jail in Huntingdon, Tenn. Mrs. J. H. Butler, wife of the sheriff, was in the sheriff's apartment on the second floor of the jail. She heard tramp of the members of the mob in the jail yard. She went downstairs and met them at the front door. They demanded that she deliver up to them one Joe Wanford, a Negro prisoner, charged with killing an officer, and sent there for safe-keeping from an adjacent county. She refused their request, replying, "You can't put anything like that over on me."

When members of the mob made as though they would enter by force, she delivered this ultimatum: "If you come in here, it will be over my dead body." This resistance was wholly unexpected by the mob. It was too much for them. Its members did not want to take the results. In the still hours of the morning they withdrew from the Huntingdon jail. The little woman in the doorway had won a victory, and the majesty of the law prevailed.

For this courageous stand on the part of Mrs. Butler, the Commission on Interracial Co-operation awarded her a sheriff's medal. The presentation exercises took place in the Huntingdon High School Auditorium, Tuesday October 27, 1931.

We give below one of the several addresses delivered on this occasion, and Mrs. Butler's response to the presentation of the medal by Dr. James D. Burton.

Jan / 32

DR. JAMES E. CLARKE, NASHVILLE, TENN.

State Chairman, Tennessee Commission on Interracial Co-operati
Editor, "Presbyterian Advance"

"*Friends and Fellow Citizens:* We are here today pr marily to pay a tribute to moral courage and to express, o behalf of law-abiding Tennesseeans generally, our admiration for a woman who, with rare self-control, stood firml for duty and law-enforcement in the face of a threatenin crowd of excited men who had temporarily 'lost their head as they were swayed by the mob spirit.

"But much more is involved on this occasion. The incident which has called us together ~~was one which gave~~ t the world a striking illustration of the power of spirit ove brute force. What can a single man accomplish in attempting to match the physical strength of one against the combined strength of dozens or hundreds? Absolutely nothing if it is a mere question of physical strength. For this reason an officer of the law often decides that the odds agains him are overwhelming and that it is useless to withstanc them. And no other conclusion is reasonable if there be no other force than physical force.

"Yet today we are commemorating an event of one morning only six months ago in this very community when a frail, unarmed woman—not a muscular, armed man—confronted twoscore or more of able-bodied men, and the lone woman was victor. By what power? By the power of spirit. Any display of force on her part might have incited the counter display of much greater force, but men who were relying upon force were nonplussed when they were met by a spirit of cool courage and firm determination to be true to duty at any cost, and it called to their own spirits with an irresistible appeal.

"I wish those men could and would come back and testify with the utmost fulness and frankness concerning what happened inside of them when they came face to face with the brave spirit whose high service to the state we have met to celebrate. I think they would tell us that they suddenly discovered that they had been moved by the impulses which belong to their animal natures and were about to commit a deed unworthy of rational beings: that they had yielded

One Woman and a Mob

[*Continued from page 21*]

to mere human passion and had entirel overlooked the requirements of justice an brotherhood; that they had been swept from their moorings as good citizens by a storm of desire and had wholly failed to hear the calls of conscience and duty. But the voice of this woman was to them the voice of conscience; her firm stand was a living example of duty; her courageous challenge that they might shoot if they wished but that only over her dead body could they secure the prisoner, awoke their slumbering manhoo and turned their thoughts to the demands o righteousness and the obligations of citizenship. Such is the power of spirit over body The spirit which enables one to control himself is able also to control others, and when men and women rely upon spiritual power rather than upon physical force, they find the Spirit of the invisible God working wit them to give an undreamed of and unconquerable power. Such is the teaching o Scripture, and such is the testimony of human experience.

"But the occasion which we celebrate today said something else to the world. It is that good citizens of this old Volunteer State believe that the Negro is a man an that the Negro, even when charged with unproved criminal action, has the same rights under the law which are accorded to any other citizen by that law. Doubtless Mrs. Butler would have been just as courageous had the prisoner been a white man and she would have deserved just as much honor for her courage. But today she deserves additional honor, for she exemplified to the world the attitude of all right-minded citizens.

"This is an interracial gathering. I represent an organization devoted to the improvement of the relations between our two races which live and work side by side in Tennessee. As its representative I venture to say to this audience that all of the finest resolutions ever adopted, all of the committees ever appointed, all of the wise plans ever devised by our Interracial Commission will never do as much to convince our Negro fellow citizens that we seek their welfare as well as our own as was done by Mrs. Butler when she declared, in the name of the majesty of the law of our state and as the representative of the Christian conscience of white Tennesseeans, that she was ready to lay down her life that full justice might be done to a Negro citizen.

"Our colored citizens may well be grateful because of the new assurance given to members of their race by virtue of Mrs. Butler's defiance of lawlessness and her demand for justice to a Negro; but white citizens of our state have even more reason to be grateful. It was not 'in word, neither in tongue, but in deed and in truth' that this brave woman proclaimed to the world from the doorway of the Carroll County jail: 'This is the attitude of the right-minded citizen of the sovereign state of Tennessee.'

"We remember the familiar words of Lowell that 'once to every man and nation comes the moment to decide. In the strife of Truth with Falsehood, for the good or evil side.' To you, Mrs. Butler, such a moment came at least once on that memorable April morning in 1931. Doubtless you will never forget that morning. In the midst of the ravishing beauty of a spring day in the South, with the birds singing in the tree tops and the bloom and blossom that gave promise of nature's bounty all about, you stood at the jail door. Behind you was the crouching form of a black-skinned prisoner, committed to the jail for safe-keeping until he might be given fair trial. Before you surged the crowd of angry white men who were determined to punish the prisoner, regardless of his rights under the law. It would have seemed to the observer almost absurd to say that the issue of that moment hung upon a woman's decision. But it did. It was your moment to decide. You decided, and your decision was on the side of good, for law and order, for righteousness and justice, for the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.

"Others may have forgotten that day which must so live in your memory, but they have not forgotten the deed which followed that moment of decision. Therefore, as a tribute to your courageous spirit and a testimonial of their appreciation of the service which you rendered to the state on that fateful morning, and also as a pledge of our determination to stand with you for justice and brotherhood for all and among all, it is my privilege to present to you this bit of metal. Its intrinsic value is small, but it represents the conviction of your fellow citizens that you manifested a courage and determination which are all too rare, that you proved the power of spirit over physical force and that you exemplified the attitude which ought always to be assumed by the Christian citizen, for all of which your fellow citizens are deeply in your debt."

IN 1913, according to the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, there were thirteen persons lynched. This is eight less than the number (twenty-one) for 1930, three more than the number (ten) for 1929, two more than the number (eleven) for 1928, and three less than the number (sixteen) for 1927. Ten of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law. Seven were taken from jails, one from a hospital, and two had been released on bail. One of the victims was hanged and his body burned.

There were fifty-seven instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, with a total of eighty-eight persons thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Tennessee Sheriff Outwits Mob Seeking Negroes

Advertiser
9-5-32
Montgomery

LEBANON, TENN., Sept. 5—(AP)—Three negroes accused in connection with the slaying of two officers last night lay concealed all day beneath the flooring of the second floor of the county jail here while several hundred men swarmed into the jail yard and delegations were led through the jail to convince them the negroes had been removed.

Late this afternoon Sheriff Ed Climer took the three men to Nashville, where they were placed in the Davidson County Jail, and told Sheriff [illegible] Bauman, of Davidson County, of the ruse which had protected the negroes until he could get them out of Lebanon.

Meantime, the mob succeeded in getting two negro women arrested with the men out of the jail and attempted to force them to tell where the men were hidden. Amid shouts of "string 'em up," Police Chief Robert Cann forced the crowd back at the point of a gun and returned the women to the jail.

Constable Ben Northern, 40, and several neighbors he had deputized had gone to a negro cabin in the county to arrest George Oldham, 18-year-old negro charged with striking a white youth.

Northern and M. E. Brown, about 50, serving as a special officer, were killed by shotgun fire from the house and a pistol bullet wounded Sam Smith, another special deputy, in the arm. As Ben Northern, Jr., started to his slain father, a load of buckshot pierced his hat but missed him.

Oldham was seated on the front porch with a shotgun across his knees, when the officers arrived. He obeyed the command to drop the weapon, but, when the Constable started to pick it up, some one thrust a shotgun through a crack in the door and killed him instantly. Brown was dropped by shotgun fire as he seized the fleeing Oldham, who escaped and was still at liberty tonight.

Sheriff Climer, accompanied by a deputy, responded to the call for aid, entered the cabin with shotguns, and arrested the three negro men and two women occupants

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NEW YORK
[redacted] WORLD —
Telegram
SEP 6 1932

MOB STORMS JAIL AND SEIZES WOMEN

Lynching Averted by Lebanon (Tenn.) Police Chief.

By the Associated Press.

LEBANON, Tenn., Sept. 6.—Quiet was restored here today and 100 National Guardsmen left after 500 men had stormed the jail, seized two Negro women and threatened to lynch them for slaying Constable Ben Northern and Special Constable M. E. Brown.

The mob seized the women, who were arrested with the men at a cabin where the constables were shot, and took them to the public square.

There were shouts of "String 'em up," but Chief of Police Robert Gan and others persuaded the crowd to return the prisoners to jail.

National Guardsmen Protect 5 From Mob

Tribune
9-8-32
Philadelphia Pa

Lebanon, Tenn., Sept.—Five Negroes are being guarded by National Guardsmen from mob action. They were arrested in connection with the slaying of two Wilson County constables.

The Sheriff asked the protection of the Guardsmen saying that the mob had invaded the jail, but the officers arriving about 2:15 a. m., reorted the situation quiet.

The constables were killed Sunday by shotgun fire as they aproached a cabin to arrest George Oldham, 18-year-old Negro on a charge of striking a white youth. Oldham escaped. Sheriff Climer and a deputy forced three Negro men and two Negro women, at the cabin to surrender. The men were concealed under the jail floor and later were hurried to Nashville for safekeeping. The women were taken to the town square but officers were able to prevent violence against them.

SHERIFF CHEATS MOB OF VICTIMS

Telegraph
9-6-32
Macon Ga.

Hides Negro Prisoners Beneath Floor and Allows Would-Be Lynchers to Search

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Sheriff Climer, accompanied by a deputy, responded to a call for aid, entered the cabin with shotguns and forced the three Negro men and two women occupants to throw up their hands.

Climer said Jake Alexander, one of the prisoners, admitted killing Brown. He had been unable to learn who shot Northern. The latter was slain two hours before his term as constable expired.

LEBANON IS CALM AFTER MOB RULE

Telegraph
9-7-32

National Guardsmen Find Nothing to Do When They Arrive in Tennessee Town

Macon Ga.

LEBANON, Tenn., Sept. 6 (AP)—Outwitted by Sheriff Ed Climer, a mob of several hundred men that stormed the jail here Monday night in search of three Negroes accused of murdering two officers dispersed Tuesday, and national guardsmen found Lebanon so quiet that they immediately returned to Nashville..

Angered to find that the sheriff had got through their lines with the Negroes sought, the mob seized two Negro women who had been in the house where the officers were slain Sunday night and threatened to hang them on the public square.

One of the women, Margie Moore, was beaten on the head with a pistol before police succeeded in inducing the crowd to surrender her and her daughter, Maud. But they were released reluctantly and later, in the night a crowd again attempted to smash into the jail but failed.

The mob began forming Monday morning and Sheriff Climer, after hiding the men in a narrow opening underneath the second floor, told the crowd he had take them to another county. The crowd demanded to search the jail and several delegations tramped over the hiding place of the prisoners without finding them.

Pair Accused of Double Killing

But still the mob milled about, watching every move of the sheriff from housetops and other points of vantage. About every half hour, Climer would rush out of the jail and speed away in his car as if he was going to move the prisoners. Finally the men relaxed their vigilance.

At dark a friend of the sheriff attracted the attention of three lookouts stationed in the yard, and while they were absent from their posts momentarily, Climer put the chained prisoners on the floor of the car and drove through the mob's lines unmolested to Nashville. He had arrived there when the mob pushed into the jail.

The Negroes are accused of shooting to death Ben Northern, 40, a constable and M. E. Brown, 50, a deputized officer, as the officers were seeking to arrest George Oldham, 18, for striking a white boy. Oldham escaped, but Climer said he thought he had been located in another county.

PROTEST NEGRO TERROR IN TENN.

I. L. D. Demands Five Held Be Freed

Daily Worker
New York City
New York
9/28/32

Mob terror, organized by police authorities, broke out in Lebanon, Tennessee, last week, when an armed mob invaded the jail, took out two Negro women prisoners and tortured them to make them tell where three men prisoners arrested with them had been hidden.

The five Negroes were arrested as the outcome of a fight between a Negro boy, George Oldham, 18, and a white boy in which the Negro got the best of his opponent. Constables were sent out to arrest him, but met with resistance. In the fight that ensued both of them, Ben Northern and M. E. Brown, were shot and killed.

After the arrest of the five, the mob of several hundred armed men organized by the police and town authorities broke into the jail and took the two Negro women out. After they had been tortured and threatened, Chief of Police Robert Gann took them back to jail. The three men had been hidden under the floor. All five were later taken to Nashville jail. The National Guard was sent to Lebanon to restore order after the mob had dispersed.

The International Labor Defense sent a strong telegram of protest against the arrest and mob intimidation to Sheriff Climer of Wilson County on Friday. The telegram said:

"We protest arrest five Negros defending themselves against police terror, and mob terrorization with police connivance. Demand their immediate release and hold you responsible for their safety.

Texas.

3789

Lynchings-1932
Prevented

NEGRO RUSHED TO SAFETY

Commercial Appeal

Texarkana Bell Hop Charged with Assaulting Girl.

TEXARKANA, Aug. 29.—(AP)—Joe Turrentine, negro hotel bellboy, was rushed from the Bowie County jail at Boston, Texas, to another jail today after it became known that he had been arrested on a charge of criminally assaulting a 10-year-old girl, who made her home with her widowed mother in the Hotel where Turrentine works.

8-30-32

Memphis, Tenn.

Turrentine was arrested yesterday d given a secret hearing and held the grand jury.

Lynchings-1932

Virginia

3790

Prevented.

Guards Prevents Mob From Attacking Radford Youth

Tribune

RADFORD, Va.—Samuel Willie Ingram, youth, was heavily guarded here Saturday by State highway patrolmen and Radford policemen after the youth was charged with assaulting a 9-year-old white girl.

Washington D.C.

The boy was brought to Radford from Roanoke, Va. for a preliminary hearing before Police Justice Leo Howard. Ingram was held for the action of the grand jury and returned to the Roanoke jail.

[illegible]

Lynchings-1932

Alabama.

3794

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Negro Held On Complaint Of Two White Women

Advertiser

1-19-32

A negro who gave his name to police as H. C. Sanders, patient at a Tuskegee hospital, was arrested and placed under a $1,000 bond yesterday on charges of accosting two white women on the street. The women said the man accosted them on Tallapoosa Street. He was arrested by Officers Holland and Donavan.

Negro Attacks Huntsville Girl

Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala

HUNTSVILLE, ALA., Feb. 11—(Special)—Detectives, police and deputies are engaged in a search for an unidentified negro who slashed Minnie George, 18-year-old white girl with a razor Wednesday night as she walked to the back door of her home to throw out a pan of dish water. The girl screamed when she saw the negro and her mother ran to her aid with a pistol but the assailant had gone off in the darkness.

The girl was slightly wounded on the left side, a six inch gash having been made in her dress. The sharp edge of the blade penetrated to the skin, inflicting a slight wound.

2-13-32

The attack is believed to have been intended for Victoria Price, one of the witnesses against the eight Scottsboro negroes who are under sentence of death for criminal attacks upon the Price girl and Ruby Bates. Victoria Price lives next door to the Georges on West Arms Street and it was recalled that two negroes were seen in the neighborhood late Wednesday afternoon.

They were seen watching houses, getting numbers and authorities believe they mistook the home of the George girl for that of the Price girl, the houses being similar in architecture. The negroes apparently paid particular attention to the Price home, neighbors who saw them declared.

Mrs. George recalled that while in the back yard Tuesday night a negro approached the fence and called to her to come and speak with him a moment and she frightened,' ran into the house instead.

Negro Accosts White Woman, Is Arrested

Advertiser

A negro who gave his name to police as Walter Davis was placed in the County Jail last night on a charge of disorderly conduct after he was said to have accosted a white woman.

7-23-32

Officers said the negro was intoxicated and that he spoke to the woman, who became frightened and screamed for help. A neighbor captured the negro on Washington Avenue near Jackson Street where he was held until arrival of police.

Montgomery Ala

Negro Attacks White Teacher

Advertiser

Feeling Running High In Talladega Community After Woman Is Stabbed

ANNISTON, ALA., April 6.—(AP)—A negro giving his name as Billy Joe Fluker was taken into custody tonight by Talladega County officers in connection with the stabbing and attempted attack of a school teacher near Talladega this afternoon.

Reports received here said the negro was taken to an unannounced destination, for safekeeping.

4-7-32

TALLADEGA, ALA., April 6—(AP)—Sheriff's deputies and a large posse of citizens tonight were searching the woods in the vicinity of Jones View, 7 miles from Talladega, where an unidentified negro accosted a white school teacher today and escaped after stabbing her.

Montgomery, Ala.

The teacher was brought to a Talladega hospital where her condition was not considered serious. She said the negro stabbed her in the shoulder, and fled when she screamed after he accosted her near the Jones View School.

Constable W. R. Middleton said all available officers and citizens were engaged in the hunt for the negro, and track dogs were en route there from Kilby Prison at Montgomery.

Hounds Are Sent From Kilby To Track Negro

Bloodhounds from Kilby Prison were sent to Talladega County late yesterday upon the request of Probate Judge A. E. Hammett, of Talladega.

Judge Hammett said the dogs were needed to track down a negro who had attacked a young white girl in Talladega yesterday. Posses were searching for the negro, Judge Hammett said, and feeling was running high as a result of the attack.

Negro Admits Stabbing Teacher At Talladega

Advertiser

4-12-32

TALLADEGA, ALA., April 11.—(AP)—Talladega County officers announced tonight that Billy Joe Fluker, negro, has confessed he stabbed Mrs. Frances Allison, school teacher, last Wednesday after she screamed when he accosted her on a highway near the Jones View School, six miles west of here.

Officers quoted Fluker as saying Mrs Allison offered him money to leave her alone and that he stabbed her during a struggle.

Sheriff George Burk said a special session of court may be asked to try the negro.

Montgomery, Ala

GRENADA WOMAN, 65, ATTACKED AND SLAIN

Commercial Appeal

Young Negro Sought for Crime in Mississippi.

5-9-32

Special to The Commercial Appeal.

GRENADA, Miss., May 8.—An extensive search for a young negro who criminally assaulted and killed Mrs. Minnie Barbee, 65, prominent resident of Grenada, last night, was under way today as threats of mob violence were whispered throughout the city.

Strangled and left in the colonial home which she had occupied for many years, the body of Mrs. Barbee, who owned considerable property here, was found at 9 o'clock last night by a negro woman, sole companion of Mrs. Barbee, who was last seen yesterday afternoon at 5 o'clock.

Saw Negro Enter Home.

That a young negro who has made Grenada his home for four months was responsible for the deed was emphasized this afternoon by Sheriff J. E. Carpenter, following testimony given last night to a coroner's jury by a woman, a neighbor of Mrs. Barbee, who declared that she had seen the negro enter the Barbee home shortly after dusk last night.

Officers believe that the crime occurred between 7:30 and 8:30 o'clock. The body was found in the bathroom adjoining her bedroom. A coal oil stove in the kitchenette in which she prepared her meals was found burning and the supper she was preparing was found in the oven.

The negro had been doing odd jobs around the Barbee residence for several weeks.' Sheriff Carpenter said, and yesterday afternoon was engaged in mowing the front lawn. Mrs. Barbee had come to fear the youth, the negro cook declared, and gave him work because he insisted on hanging around the home.

A coroner's jury last night returned a verdict that Mrs. Barbee had come to her death "by strangulation after being criminally assaulted." The assault was verified by two Grenada doctors, R. A. Clanton and J. S. Sharp, who examined the body shortly after it was discovered.

Robbery Not Motive.

Robbery was evidently not the motive for the crime, as officers found $94 in one-dollar bills on investigation. A wound was found on Mrs. Barbee's lower jaw, believed at first to have been a knife wound. It was later determined that the wound was probably caused by the negro's fist.

Feeling was high here today, and Sheriff Carpenter is said to have heard threats of violence if the negro is captured.

Officers turned to Memphis tonight in search of the negro. Sheriff Carpenter said that the youth frequently visited Memphis and this afternoon solicited the aid of Memphis officers in the quest.

Sheriff Sam Smith and deputies of LeFlore County aided Sheriff Carpenter in the investigation today, when it was learned that the negro had left his rooming house Friday afternoon and had not been seen there since.

Lived There All H[illegible]e.

Mrs. Barbee, a [illegible] of Grenada, had lived here a[illegible]e. Her husband, secretary [illegible] county fair association, died [illegible] years ago, and since then Mrs. Barbee had lived alone.

Mrs. Barbee was prominent in church and social circles here. She was a member of the Methodist Church.

She is survived by a brother, Dr. Golliday Lake, New York dentist, and her father, George W. Lake, 92 of Como. Neither will be able to attend the funeral services tomorrow afternoon because of ill-health.

Dr. Lake practiced dentistry in Memphis 25 years ago.

NEGRO ARRESTED

Advertiser

Montgomery Ala

Joe Williams, negro, was arrested yesterday on a charge of disorderly conduct after he was alleged to have insulted a white woman in Capitol Heights who refused to hire him to mow her lawn. He will be given a hearing in Recorder's Court this morning.

University Student Mysteriously Shot

Advertiser

TUSCALOOSA, ALA., July 26.—(AP)—A University of Alabama student, Marvin Knight, 23, of Bronxville, N. Y., was in a critical condition tonight with a bullet wound in the neck inflicted last night in a mysterious attack on him and a woman Summer school student.

Montgomery Ala

Knight told police he and his companion, estranged wife of a Tuscaloosa resident, were standing beside his automobile in a "lovers lane" near here when a negro approached and shot him.

7/27/32

Regaining consciousness Knight said he found the negro struggling with the woman and that as he was unarmed, he jumped in his car and attempted to run down the highwayman but struck his companion instead.

The young woman was brought to a hospital and dismissed after receiving emergency treatment. Hospital attendants said both of her eyes had been blackened, her scalp had been cut and her body bore numerous bruises.

Knight's father, a Bronxville advertising man, was expected to reach here early tomorrow.

Student Claims Negro Shot Him

Telegraph

He Tells of Trying to Run Down Gunman With Car

7-27-32

TUSCALOOSA, Ala., July 26. (AP)—Marvin Knight, 23, University of Alabama student from Bronxville, N. Y., was in a critical condition Tuesday with a bullet wound in the neck received Monday night when he said he and his young woman companion were attacked in a "lovers lane" near here.

Macon Ga.

Knight told police he was shot by a Negro who accosted him as he stood beside his parked automobile. His companion, whose name was withheld, was brought to a hospital and dismissed after receiving emergency treatment. Hospital attendants said she apparently had been struck by an automobile.

After the Negro shot him, Knight told police he jumped in his car and as he drove away the machine hit someone he believed to be his assailant.

Knight said he was unconscious several minutes after being shot and when he regained consciouness he found the Negro scuffling with his companion. Being unarmed, he said he got into the car and attempted to run down the highwayman and in doing so struck the young woman.

The student's companion is the estranged wife of a Tuscaloosa resident. Knight's father, prominent Bronxville advertising man, was reported en route here Tuesday.

Negro Balked In 2 Assault Attempts

Advertiser

9-24-3

A negro man who is said to have entered two houses at the State Prison Camp No. 4 settlement early yesterday morning and attempted to attack two women, was held in the county jail last night on charges of attempted attack and grand larceny.

Montgomery Ala

The negro, who gave his name as Ed Scott, was arrested by Deputies Sheriff Hayden Sellers and Addie Moseley.

It was reported that before dawn yesterday the negro walked into a home where a 16-year-old girl lay sleeping. When he touched her she awakened and screamed, frightening the negro away.

The negro left that house and went to another home nearby, officers were told, where he entered a room also occupied by a woman. As in the first case, he touched the woman and her screams caused him to flee.

Officers were notified and the negro's capture was effected shortly thereafter.

Two White Women Fight Off

Advertiser 5-14-32

Surprised Alone In House On Old Selma Road

Montgomery, Ala.

Negro Thugs With Small Rifle

The story of how two white women, armed with a small caliber rifle and plenty of ammunition, successfully repelled an attempted at[illegible] two unidentified negroes [illegible] broken into an isolated h[illegible] the old Selma Road early yesterday, was revealed when county officers were asked to search for the assailants.

More than 100 shots were fired at the negroes who had cut the telephone wires, hurled bricks through windows and finally gained entrance through the kitchen, only to be driven out by a fusillade of shots from the women who had barricaded themselves in a room that had had a strong bolt on the door.

P. H. Crawford, an employe of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, who lives on the old Selma Road about one mile beyond Maxwell Field, said that he had planned to go fishing Monday night and that a Mrs. Nelson, a neighbor, was going to spend the night with his wife, who otherwise would have been alone in the house. Mr. Crawford said that he brought his wife and Mrs. Nelson to the house about 11:30 Monday night and went over to the shops to attend to some matters before leaving on the fishing trip.

When he returned to the house a short while later he was informed about the attempted attack.

When Mrs. Crawford and her companion noticed the two negroes standing in the yard they attempted to use the phone, but found it out of order. The negroes advanced on the house, they said, and the rifle was brought into play.

Mrs. Crawford, who knows how to handle a gun, her husband said, fired several shots out of the door and windows, but the negroes went to the rear and slipped in the house by way of the kitchen. Mrs. Crawford and her companion retreated to the dining room and then to the next room where they bolted themselves in, still firing intermittently at the invaders.

The negroes evidently realized that the supply of ammunition was unlimited, Mr. Crawford said, and they finally gave up the siege and left.

County officers were notified and bloodhounds from Kilby Prison were taken to the scene about 10 a.m. yesterday, but the dogs could not track down the negroes.

University Student Will Recover, Doctor Says

Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala.

8/2/32

TUSCALOOSA, ALA., Aug. 1—(AP)—First de[illegible] improvement in the condition of Marvin S. Knight, University of Alabama student from Bronxville, N. Y., who was shot by a negro highwayman a week ago was reported by hospital attendants today.

Knight has been in a critical condition since he was found in a "lover's lane" near the University last Monday night with a bullet wound in the neck. The student said he was shot by a negro who accosted him and a young woman companion.

His physician said he would recover unless unforseen complications develop.

TWO NEWS ITEMS

Age — 8/6/32

Under the headline, "Youth Shot In Car With Matron," the New York Evening Journal printed the following dispatch from Tuscaloosa, Ala., on July 26:

> "Investigation of the shooting of Marvin Knight, twenty-three-year-old University of Alabama student, of Bronxville, N. Y., as he sat in a parked automobile on the roadside with a young married woman last night was launched today by police. Knight was shot in the neck, but his wound was not regarded as serious. His companion, whose name police withheld, was treated for major bruises."

New York City

On July 27, the New York Times, under the headline, "Bronx Student Shot In Alabama," published the following version of the affair sent out from Tuscaloosa by the Associated Press.

New York

8/3/32

> "Marvin S. Knight, Jr., twenty-three-years-old, University of Alabama student, whose home is at Bronxville, N. Y., was shot and seriously wounded near here last night as he and a girl companion sat in an automobile parked in a retreat kown as 'Lover's Lane'. He told the police a Negro suddenly appeared out of the darkness and shot him in the neck. Knight said he regained consciousness a few minutes later and found the Negro struggling with the girl. He was not armed and tried to flee in his automobile. Both were brought to a hospital here, but she was released after emergency treatment. Her name was withheld, although it was learned she is married and estranged from her husband."

Of the two news items, the one which appeared in the New York Evening Journal and sent out for publication in the press shortly after the shooting is more impressive and bears the earmarks of authenticity. The story in the New York Times might have been concocted either by the police or a representative of the Associated Press to help the erring woman in question out of a delicate and embarrassing situation. If she was not estranged from her husband she probably has been since the scandal.

It does not require deduction by a Sherlock Holmes to figure out who shot Marvin Knight and the woman whose name has been kept a secret. Most likely tongues are furiously wagging in Tuscaloosa and environs and a pretty definite idea exists generally as to the identity of the irate gunman. As the shooting occurred in a university town amid an environment of education and culture, and not among the semi-civilized element of Alabama, it is not expected that an attempt will be made "to avenge an insult on white womanhood" by lynching an innocent Negro. It has been done.

It is a low, mean, contemptible, dastardly act—downright slander—to accuse a Negro of committing a crime in the hope of throwing a smoke screen around the identity of the married woman and the one who did the actual shooting. Representative members of the race in Alabama should make it their business to see that the true facts in the case are given full publicity and the undeserved stigma against the Negro is removed.

As for the Associated Press, it would serve the best interests of the nation as a whole if it insisted that many of its southern correspondents confine themselves strictly to the facts and show strict impartiality in all controversial matters in which the Negro is either a principal in fact or a figment of the imagination

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Assaulted Woman Accuses Ex-Convict

Advertiser

10-19-32

Montgomery

Within a few hours after receiving notice that a negro had assaulted a negro woman on the old Hayneville Road between the Carter Hill Road and the Mamie Community, Sheriff Sam Sterns and his deputies yesterday arrested Willie Jurman, ex-convict, who was identified by the victim of the attack, he said.

The negro was arrested at Pike Road after the Sheriff, with the aid of John Dees, a planter of that section, had traced him to near Pike Road. The negro, it was said, came upon the woman in a potato patch, told her he had just been released from [illegible] and inquired the way to Union Springs, before he seized her and threatened her life with a knife.

Adv.

Jurman denied the charge when identified by the woman. He was convicted sometime ago of burglary of a house or store near Grady, Sheriff Stearns said, and was sentenced to two or three years in the penitentiary. Sheriff Stearns was accompanied by Deputies Masingill and Roy Stearns.

Lynchings-1932

Arkansas.

3795

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Man Surrenders, Lynching Fails

Negro

11-17-32

BLYTHEVILLE, Ark.—(ANP)—Realizing that he was in danger of being lynched, E. T. Franks, a farm hand, charged with attempting to assault a 16-year-old white girl, rushed here and surrendered to local officers while a mob was searching for him Monday afternoon.

According to the rumors, Franks attacked the girl in a farm house about four miles from this town with a knife, declaring that if she did not do as he hold her he would slash her throat. She screamed and he fled. The alarm was spread and the farmers and white farm hands assembled armed with shot guns and the man hunt was on. The intended victim was successful in eluding the mob and reached here safely and surrendered.

He has vehemently denied the charges and grilling on the part of officers has failed to make him confess. He is being closely guarded and added guards have been stationed at the jail to prevent a lynching.

Knoxville, Tenn.

East Tennessee News

Lynchings-1932

California.

3796

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

"Another Massie Case"

Afro American 6/25/32

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — "Three Negroes kidnapped and criminally assaulted a white girl, broke her ribs and generally mistreated her," yelled the announcer of a radio news release, without going into the real details last Wednesday.

Later he explained that the Negroes were companions to and were led by a white man in the uniform of an army lieutenant.

Lynchings - 1932

D.C.

3797

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Negro Is Arrested In Hatchet Attack

[illegible]

WASHINGTON, March 18.—(AP)—Maryland County police today arrested Sam Davis, 18, negro, who they said had confessed to an attack with a hatchet earlier in the day on Mrs. Anita Doyle in a Washington suburb near Takoma Park.

Mrs. Doyle is in a hospital in a serious condition from gashes on the head and shoulders.

She was at home with her six-year-old son when a negro came to the door and asked for food. Upon being refused he attacked her with the hatchet.

Davis, who lives near the Doyle home, was held in bond for $5,000. A warrant charging him with attempted criminal assault also was sworn out against him.

Lynchings-1932

Georgia

3798

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

WOMAN, 23, ATTACKED AND ROBBED BY NEGRO

Constitution 2-21-32 Atlanta Ga

A 23-year-old Atlanta woman was criminally assaulted Saturday night by a negro [illegible] robbed her and the young woman's 20-year-old cousin, of Toledo, Ohio, [illegible] alley [illegible] Forsyth street, between Garnett and Trinity avenue, according to police reports.

The two young women were walking on [illegible] street, they told police, when they were approached by the negro man and forced into the alley. Police were given a complete description of the negro.

Negro Arrested

Constitution 2-15-32 Atlanta Ga

Prompt and cool work by two special officers Sunday afternoon saved a young negro from a crowd of men in the Fulton Bag Cotton Mill district, according to police reports.

W. L. Shields and [illegible] Wood, special patrolmen for the Fulton Bag, took B. H. Head, 25, negro, of East Point, from 40 or 50 men on Wylie street following an alleged attempt to attack a white woman, police said. The negro was treated at Grady hospital following his rescue and then lodged in police station.

Negro Youth Held in Alleged Attack

Telegraph

Delivery Boy Charged With Attempted Assault

4-9-32

Wiley Davis, 19-year-old Negro delivery boy, was placed in the Bibb county jail at 3 o'clock Friday morning on charge of attempted criminal assault on a young white girl.

The attack is said to have occurred about 9 o'clock Thursday night on Montpelier avenue, as the young woman was returning home after making purchases at a nearby store.

Macon, Ga.

The Negro was identified by the girl as a delivery boy who had formerly come to her mother's home with grocery orders. After the girl reached home her mother ran from the house and found the Negro near Troy Raines' store on Montpelier avenue. She slapped him when she recognized him and he ran off, officers were informed.

Answer Call

George Britt, detective and Grady Favors, special officer answered a call to police headquarters and a force of sheriff's deputies joined in the hunt. Wiley was known to them, they said, for a former conviction on a similar charge in 1928. The deputies included Luther J. Stevens, Oscar Harris, Romas Raley and Earl Moseley.

Search over the county continued for six hours before the Negro was located at the house of a brother of his brother-in-law on Campbell avenue, Tindall field.

When Deputies Stevens and Harris located the Negro he made no resistance, they reported. He told them that he had done nothing to the girl but that he was preparing to leave the next morning as he believed "everyone has it in for me."

ASSAULT REPORT CAUSES EXCITEMENT

Tribune 7-14-32 Savannah, Ga

THEN THE GIRL ADMITS HER STORY WAS A HOAX

Police Take Girl to Scene But Fail to Find Any Evidence of the Supposed Assault

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A 15-year-old girl caused excitement in police circles at an early hour this morning, but later admitted, the police report says, that her story of an attempted assault was framed up to justify her late return from a dance.

"She admitted to Detective Baughn and Officer Sapp in the presence of her mother and father that she had been to a dance with another girl and did not get home until late and that she was afraid that she was going to be whipped and framed up the attempted assault," says the written police record in the case.

The story of the attempted assault as accounted for in the police report was that the girl had said she had visited the home of a friend and was returning home at 8:30 o'clock when at Fortieth and Montgomery streets, she first claimed, a Negro in an automobile abducted her and carried her out on the Ogeechee road where two attempts to assault were repulsed. The girl claimed she had been gagged with a handkerchief. The police report says she was taken to the place on the road where the handkerchief was supposed to have been thrown and the handkerchief could not be found. The girl had at first contended she was put out of the car on the highway and reached home at 1:15 o'clock. The police report was recorded at 1:30 o'clock. An investigation of the case was made by Lieut. Morgan, Sergt. Lively, Detective Baughn and Officers Sapp and Ellis.—Savannah Press.

DOUGHERTY NEGRO HELD FOR ATTACK

Telegraph

"Shep" Bruno, Just Off Chain Gang, Accused of Attempting to Assault Woman

5-14-32

ALBANY, Ga., May 13.—"Shep" Bruno, but one day out of the chain gang where he served a 13-year sentence for burglary, was arrested Friday afternoon by Aaron Denson, Dougherty county deputy sheriff, on a charge of attempted assault on a white woman residing in the western part of the county.

Bruno denied his guilt and stated that he was in Albany Friday morning when the assault was attempted. The victim is later to be brought into see if she can positively identify Bruno as her assailant.

Ga

The young woman made her home with a married sister about seven miles from Albany. Her sister and brother-in-law came to Albany Friday morning and it was while she was alone at the house that the crime was attempted.

She stated that she was en route from the house to an out building when Bruno seized her and brandished a knife, stating he would kill her if she screamed. Despite his threats, the woman states, she broke loose from the Negro and ran screaming to a neighbor's home. But not until she had received a slight knife wound on the right shoulder and some fingernail scratches. The Negro fled before the woman reached the home of neighbors who immediately called the sheriff's office.

While there is bitter feeling against the accused man, no danger of violence is anticipated. Dougherty county has a reputation of never having had a lynching with in its borders.

ATTORNEY DENIES NEGROES' CLAIMS

Telegraph

Condemned Attackers Confessed and Declined to Go on Stand, Walker Declares

10-16-32

M. A. Walker, Preston, attorney for two Webster county Negroes who are under sentence to die Oct. 28 for criminal assault on a white woman, said in a letter addressed to J. R. Moseley here that both Negroes confessed the assault to him and declined to make a statement to the jury which tried them.

Macon, Ga

The letter was received by Mr. Moseley, welfare worker, Saturday morning. It refuted statements made by the Negroes last week that they were not guilty of the crime. One of them, Charlie Green, Jr., said he never had confessed. The other, Paschal Baker, said he was scared into a confession.

The Negroes were tried in Webster county in less than two hours, sentenced to death and hurried away to the Bibb county jail for safekeeping pending their electrocution.

"We (there were two attorneys for the defense) held a private conversation with them (the Negroes) to ascertain from them the truth so as to be able to handle their cases," Mr. Walker wrote.

Admitted Their Guilt

Both of the admitted their guilt to me and said that the statement made to the officers in regard to the case was true. They gave to us practically the same statement and all minor details were the same as the officers testified.

"These defendants had a fair and impartial trial. The state made out its case by competent testimony. They had an opportunity and were asked by me if they had any statement to make. I told them they had a right to make their statement to the court and jury.

"Each one of them told me that they had no statement to make, and I announced it to the court. They told me they had no witnesses and they admitted the crime with full knowledge of the fact I had been appointed by the court to assist in their defense. They never denied any part of their statements after having been told what punishment they might expect.

"Both the defendants stated to me their confessions were made to the officers freely and voluntarily without any fear of punishment. Green stated that he was guilty but was sorry that he committed the crime.

Innocence Maintained

"At the request of the defendants and with their consent," Mr. Walker concluded, "the courtroom was cleared. This act within itself shows to the mind of a reasonable thinking person that they realized the solemnity of their crime and dangers that they might incur."

Mr. Moseley became interested in the case after the Negroes had been brought here following their trial. They told him they were not guilty. He read Green the letter from Mr. Walker

"I didn't do it and never confessed to anybody that I did," Mr. Moseley said Green told him. "The lawyer said there was no need of us going on the witness stand as Baker had confessed. They told us they had the courtroom cleared we were in danger of being mobbed.

"I wanted my fingerprints taken. They'll show we didn't do it. I don't want to be punished for what I didn't do."

Baker's only comment, Mr. Moseley said, was: "As I told you, we ain't guilty. Have mercy Jesus—have mercy Lord."

The crime was committed near Preston on the night of Aug. 12. The woman was assaulted after she and her husband, asleep in their room, had been slugged into unconsciousness.

Daniels Is Fined For Insulting Girl

The Macon Telegraph 9-23-32

Convicted on a charge of making improper [illegible] to a young white woman, James Daniels, Negro barber employed in a Poplar street shop, Thursday was sentenced in recorder's court to pay a fine of $100 or serve 60 days in the city stockade.

Daniels, police said, has been convicted previously on charges of insulting white girls.

Thursday a young woman testified that the Negro made indecent remarks to her Wednesday night at the corner of Arch and Third streets. Two other young women told of the Negro's alleged efforts to "flirt" with them. Officers J. H. Sawyer and A. R. Chance, who arrested the Negro, said they had several complaints against him.

Daniels denied that he made any improper remark to the woman.

Lynchings-1932

Illinois

3799

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

RAPISTS DRAG GIRL TO ALLEY AND ATTACK HER

3-5-32

Chicago, Ill.

Lucille Stanberry, 25 years old, of 3619 Dearborn st., was returning home from church Sunday night, when two unknown men grabbed her and dragged her into an alley back of State st. between 38th and 39th sts. At the point of a gun each of the men in succession criminally attacked her. They then robbed her of her pocket book and fled.

Tale Involving Race Called "Farce"

Chicago Defender

3-5-32

Chicago, Ill.

Tactics of southern white women who get caught violating some moral code appears to have popped up here last week when Mrs. Vera Corbett Davis, 28 years old, 6621 Laflin St., accused an unidentified member of the Race of having attacked her after he had shot and killed her escort, James Egan, also 28 years old, 4149 Wells St., in the rear of the American Giants baseball park, 39th St. and Shields Ave., last Wednesday night.

Police officers doubted the woman's story and launched an investigation designed to uncover the actual facts. There were numerous circumstances which caused the authorities to discount much of Mrs. Davis' story, and it was indicated Thursday that the woman's husband, from whom she has been estranged for some time, would be questioned if he is found.

Kin Comes to Scene

Shortly after the slaying Mrs. Davis told the police she was riding north on Wentworth Ave. at 39th St. with Egan on his vegetable truck when a "black man" leaped on the running board and ordered the driver to keep going. After directing Egan to the rear of the ball park the man is alleged to have shot him and then dragged the woman further over on the field and ravished her.

When found, according to John Bahwell, 3737 Parnell Ave., a relative of Egan, the wounded man's clothing was arranged in such a way as to indicate he was in a compromising position when shot. Mrs. Davis ran to Bahwell's house after the shooting and notified him. He, his wife and a man named John Durkin went to the scene. When the police arrived Egan had been removed to St. Paul hospital, 828 W. 35th Pl., where he died.

Police Continue Probe

The opinion was expressed that an admirer of Mrs. Davis might have trailed her and Egan and surprised them on the vacant lot. It was considered hardly possible that a man would have stopped to attack a woman after he had wounded her companion.

Although Mrs. Davis, who had been held in custody, was released at the conclusion of the inquest, police investigation continued with renewed vigor.

The alleged attack victim gave a description of the slayer as follows: Unusually dark skinned, about 25 years old, 5 feet 10 inches in height and weighing about 165 pounds. She said he wore a dark suit, light gray cap, a light shirt and dark tie.

Captain Michael Grady of Stanton Ave. station has been asked by a group of citizens to instruct officers working on the case not to resort to the promiscuous picking up of persons to be shown up in connection with the case.

One policeman said he believed Mrs. Davis' story was a fabrication in its entirety and that she knows who the man is who shot Egan.

Louisiana

3800

Lynchings-1932

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

THREE NEGROES HELD IN LOUISIANA CRIME

Constitution

SHREVEPORT, La., April 29.—(AP) Three negro suspects were arrested early today after R. C. Fay told police he had been held up on the outskirts of the city by three negroes, two of whom attacked his 22-year-old girl companion in his automobile.

4-30-32

Atlanta Ga.

The girl was brought to a hospital here, where physicians said her condition was not serious and allowed her to go home.

WOMAN SHOOTS NEGRO, BALKS ATTACK EFFORT

Constitution

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 26.—(AP)—Mrs. Hazel Schumacher, 36, shot a negro below the heart as he attacked her today in her home at Metairie Ridge.

9-27-32

At the hospital, where the negro was taken in what was believed a dying condition, he gave his name as Sam Sisse, of Baton Rouge.

Atlanta Ga.

Lynchings-1932

Michigan.

3801

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

OFAY GIRL SHOT SELF; SAID BIG NEGRO DID IT

Afro American 3/26/32

DERTOIT.—Carmen Beaulieu, 16-year-old white High School of Commerce honor student, admitted Thursday that she had shot herself after police had produced evidence that she had not been shot by a "big colored man" as she first declared when found in a vacant lot at Thatcher and Ilene Streets.

Miss Beaulieu, when carried to the Redford branch of the Receiving Hospital, stated that she boarded a bus near the school, which is in the downtown section of the city, and was threatened by a colored man who sat in the same seat with her.

She declared that the man pressed a gun against her and rasped, "Don't get off or I'll shoot," when she attempted to change buses to reach home.

Rode to End of Line

She said that she was terrified and rode to the end of the line where she left the bus with the man behind her. Suddenly, without warning, the man is alleged to have fired twice, the bullets striking her in the abdomen and the left shoulder.

Miss Beaulieu's story was contradicted by J. V. Labutte, white, driver of the bus on which she rode. Her story was also denied by girl chums who told police about her threats to commit suicide.

With this evidence against her Miss Beaulieu confessed Thursday that she had shot herself Wednesday evening and faked the attack story.

Lynchings - 1932

Mississippi

3802

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

CONVICTED MAN CHEATS DEATH

Tribune

Attorney Wins Race With Death to Win Prisoner Stay of Execution

1-22-33

JACKSON, Miss.—(ANP)—The saving of the neck of Tom Caraway just five minutes before he was to be hanged on Friday by the sheriff of Jackson County, Mississippi, was one of the most dramatic and miraculous escapes in legal history.

Washington

Carraway was convicted of rape on a white woman last April at Pascagoula, Miss., and his case was appealed to the Mississippi Supreme Court and the judgment of the lower court affirmed, and December 4 set as the date of execution. At that juncture Attorney S. D. Redmond, often times called "Dr. Redmond," was called into the case.

Wins Two Reprieves

After getting the Governor to grant Caraway two reprieves, Redmond labored unceasingly to obtain a commutation for his client, but finding out just fourteen hours before the hour for execution that the Governor had decided "to make an angel" out of Caraway, and would not interfere, Redmond immediately appealed at 9 o'clock at night to the Supreme Court of Mississippi to save his client who was to be hanged the next morning at 10 o'clock. Caraway's petition for a writ of error coram nobis was denied that night by the Supreme Court, so Redmond immediately prepared other pleadings and appealed to Judge W. A. White of the Circuit Court at Biloxi, 220 miles away to grant this writ.

To do that Redmond had to dispatch his pleadings and brief by courier who left Jackson at 11:30 o'clock that night and drove all night over the most rocky roads to be in Biloxi the next morning at the opening of court. No train would have arrived in time.

Argue Case Over Phone

Redmond being the only lawyer in the case remained in Jackson so he could appeal back to the Supreme Court if Judge White denied his petition. And, had he not remained in Jackson he would lost his client for he could not have possibly reached the Supreme Court in time to save him.

At 9:30 next morning Redmond called Judge White of the lower Court and argued his case for half an hour over long distance telephone. His petition was denied by Judge White.

Redmond then asked an appeal back to the Supreme Court and a stay of execution pending appeal. Judge White denied Redmond an appeal Redmond then got Judge White to stay the execution of his client until 3:30 that afternoon in order to give him time to appeal from Judge White's decision back to the Supreme Court. To do this Redmond had only two hours in which to appeal back to each of the six justices of the Supreme Court separately. As fast as one refused he applied to another until he reached the sixth justice, Judge W. A. Ander, who granted him the stay of executive and an appeal, just ten minutes before the hour for execution arrived.

Race With Time

Judge Anderson's order was rushed quickly to the clerk of the Supreme Court that the clerk might call the sheriff at Pascagoula, 220 miles away at the very quickest possible moment to stop the execution of Caraway. The clerk demanded that the telphone company cut out all other conversations and give this death message full right of way. That was done and the sheriff got the message just five minutes by the watch before Caraway was due to swing into eternity.

Son Assists Father

S. R. Redmond, attorney of St. Louis, Mo., son of D. D. Redmond, on his visit to his old home in Jackson, assisted his father in mapping out a line of defense for Caraway and briefing the case.

The writ of error coram nobis for which Redmond applied has not been granted by the Supreme Court in Mississippi but once in forty years.

It is said that this is the first time a Negro's case, charged with rape of a white woman in Mississippi, has ever reached the Supreme Court, all others as a rule having been lynched. Caraway was immediately returned from Pascagoula to Jackson for safe-keeping.

Negroes Fast and Pray For Murderer's Capture

Constitution

5-18-32

Atlanta Ga.

GRENADA, Miss., May 11.—(AP) A negro congregation here is fasting in the hope that their prayers for the capture of a man who criminally assaulted and murdered an elderly white woman Saturday night will be answered.

All 75 members of the Church of God in Christ yesterday renounced food for three days so that they could atone for Mrs. Minnie Barbee's ravishment and slaying.

Clarence Williams, a negro worker, is hunted. Citizens of Grenada, including some negroes, have contributed to a $1,000 reward fund for his capture and conviction.

THIRD SUSPECT IS HELD

Commercial Appeal

Negro Spirited Away From Oxford In Assault Case

11-29-32

Memphis Tenn

OXFORD, Miss., Nov. 28.— Eddie Wortham, young negro, the third suspect held in connection with the assault on a 21-year-old country school teacher here Saturday night, was spirited away today to a jail in another country for questioning and possible identification.

Officers declined t state whta evidence they had against the negro.

The young woman was attacked early Saturday night while walking through some woods near the university. She offered the negro five $1 bills and her wrist watch to let her go, but he refused. However, he took her money when she left. The girl reached home in a highly hysterical state and informed her father.

Two other young negroes were arrested Saturday night but were not definitely connected with the crime.

Lynchings-1932
6

North Carolina

3803

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

YOUTH GUILTY ON ASSAULT CHARGE

Courier 3-5-32

SALISBURY, N. C., Mar. 3—(By ANP)—It required the jury exactly 30 minutes here Wednesday morning to decide that Zander Lee Ingram, charged with assaulting a white woman was guilty and the 17-year-old youth is now in jail awaiting sentence.

Ingram steadfastly denied that he was guilty of the charges but the white woman, Mrs. Marshall Stamps, contended that he was the person who had attacked her from the rear, choked her until she was unconscious and then raped her.

The jury had the choice of three verdicts, assault and rape, assault and not guilty, and the first was selected.

Judge McRae, after hearing the verdict, declared that he would pass sentence later.

Mob Threatens Deputy's Slayer

Telegraph 9-7-32
Macon, Ga

Sheriff Is Confident He Can Protect Prisoner

WAYNESVILLE, N. C., Sept. 6 (AP) A large crowd milled about the county jail here Tuesday night after Charlie Rose, 17-year-old Negro wanted for affronting a young white girl near the city, had fatally wounded Bill Ray, 25, deputy sheriff who sought to arrest him.

Sheriff J. A. Lowe said the Negro had not been moved to another jail for safekeeping because he knew the people in the crowd and was certain he could maintain order.

Ray, who was married and had one child, died in Haywood county hospital here Tuesday night. He was shot through the forehead about 5 p. m.

Sheriff Lowe said he had not had time to investigate the exact nature of the crime of which the Negro had been accused since the shooting, and it had been considered of no great importance before. He said he was not sure, but he could not say yet even that it was attempted criminal assault.

Earlier reports had said Ray and two other deputies had been dispatched to arrest the Negro in a criminal assault case.

Sheriff Lowe said four or five other Negroes were being held in connection with the case.

Lynchings - 1932

Ohio.

3804

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

NEGRO LADS BARELY ESCAPE LYNCHING

Tribune

Massillon, Ohio. Feb. 22—When a 9 year old girl, threatened with a spanking because she did not return home promptly from school, said a Negro man had lured her away, police scoured the Negro section of this steel town and eventually picked up a 13 and a 15 year old Negro boy. Both have been in jail for two weeks now, but no official charges have been filed against them.

2-25-32

The two boys are David Palmer and Jimmy Lee McDue. They were playing marbles near the home of Lois Rohr, the girl who says she was lured away. The girl is said to have declared she could not identify the boys, but police urged her to say it might have been they. A lynching mob was immediately formed of "respectable citizens" of Massillon: and the boys had to be hurriedly removed.

Savannah, Ga.

Lynchings—1932

Pennsylvania

3805

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Little Girl's Body Found; Five Negroes Are Arrested

Telegraph 2-9-32

Seven-Year-Old Dorothy Lutz Discovered by Police in Vacant House, Strangled to Death With Own Clothing; Threats of Violence Heard

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 8. (AP)—In a dingy vacant house seven doors from her home, the body of seven-year-old Dorothy Lutz was found today—the victim of an attacker who choked her to death.

Macon, Ga.

The child, who disappeared last Wednesday, after leaving her widowed mother to go roller skating, was found on the bare floor of a room in the house.

A piece of her clothing had been jammed down her throat. Another strip was bound over her mouth and tied at the back of her head. There were two long cuts on her blood-covered face.

Four men and a woman, all Negroes, were arrested as suspects several hours after the discovery. Another man who had been arrested last Saturday near a home for girls was questioned.

Two policemen found the body after forcing their way through a cellar window into the three-story house.

The child's mother, Mrs. Florence Lutz, and Mrs. Lutz's father, Miles Wood, 72, collapsed when they learned of the discovery. Mrs. Lutz's husband, Peter, an apartment house janitor, died three weeks ago.

Police said the child had been dead several days and in all probability had been in the room since last Friday.

Investigators said they believed the assailant had seized the child, dragged her into a nearby court and strangled her there. It was believed he then dragged the body through a window, which was found unlocked, and left it in the bedroom.

As police swarmed over the building several hundred persons pushed against police lines about the place. Threats against the killer, should he be captured, were heard.

One woman in the neighborhood reported to police she had seen a Negro talking to the child on the day she disappeared. The woman said she would be able to identify the man.

"After my husband died we couldn't keep our apartment, so we came here to live with my father," Mrs. Lutz said. "Of course, we are very poor. But I wouldn't mind that if I had my baby back."

Dorothy was the only child. A younger brother died two years ago.

Similar Crime in Brooklyn

NEW YORK, Feb. 8 (AP)—Soon after a white hearse had carried the garroted body of five-year-old Florence McDonnell to her burial today, Olive Hicks, the Negro-Indian arrested Thursday night as a suspect in the attack and killing, was identified as a man seen walking with the child about the time she disappeared.

A Salvation Army officer picked Hicks out of a line-up of nine men, and said he had seen him walking with the little girl last Wednesday, police said. The child's body was found in a Brooklyn tenement basement Thursday.

NEGRO ADMITS KILLING, RAPING WHITE GIRL, 7

Chicago Tribune

2-14-32

Philadelphia, Pa. [Sunday], Feb. 14.—[Special.]—Dorothy Lutz, 7, whose body was found in a vacant house in the old northern Liberties section of the city Monday, was raped and strangled to death by William Brown, a 16 year old Negro, it was announced early today by Joseph Lestrange, assistant superintendent of police.

Arrested on Friday, the Negro for more than 24 hours underwent continuous police grilling, but finally broke down last night. Following his first outbreak of terror at discovery, he confessed the slaying.

Brown said he lured the child into an untenanted dwelling near her home on Feb. 3 by promising to give her a jumping rope.

The Negro's arrest followed two days later during a roundup of suspects. The only suspicion attached to him was that he disappeared a few days before the discovery of the girl's body. He had been living with a Negro family in a hovel near the Lutz home, but the family recently moved.

Assistant Superintendent Lestrange said Brown had identified a gold signet ring as belonging to him. It was found under his victim's body. He said it must have fallen out of his vest pocket and he did not miss it until later.

Negro Boy Confesses Killing Girl of 7

2-15-32

Atlanta

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 14 (AP)—Willie Brown, 16-year-old negro, who police say is deficient mentally, will be arraigned on a murder charge tomorrow for the assault and slaying of 7-year-old Dorothy Lutz.

Brown confessed last night, police said, that he lured the little girl to a vacant house seven doors from her home February 3 with a new skipping rope and then attacked her. He lived in the neighborhood.

16-Year Old Negro To Be Tried For Attack

Advertiser

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 14.—(AP)—Willie Brown, 16-year-old negro, who police say is deficient mentally, will be arraigned on a murder charge tomorrow for the assault and slaying of 7-year-old Dorothy Lutz.

2-15-32

Brown confessed last night, police said, that he lured the little girl to a vacant house seven doors from her home Feb. 3 with a new skipping rope and then attacked her. He lived in the neighborhood.

"He is a beast," said Mrs. Florence Lutz, widowed mother of Dorothy.

Montgomery, Ala.

Police quoted Brown as saying that he decided to commit the crime three days before Dorothy disappeared when he saw her playing in the street.

ALTOONA, PA.
MIRROR

JAN 15 1932

A TERRIBLE TRAGEDY.

THE BRUTAL MURDER of a daughter of the physician having charge of the psychopathic ward of the Rockview penitentiary near Bellefonte by a Negro who was suffering from a mental disease, although regarded as quite harmless, again calls to mind the danger that always resides in the individual with a disordered mind.

While the father and mother of the girl were absent, this apparently harmless man, who had been detailed to perform certain chores about the doctor's home, stole into the house, attacked the girl in the bathroom and then killed her with a butcher knife which he had taken from the kitchen. Going straight from the scene of the murder to the warden's office, he calmly related what he had done and expressed a desire to die in the electric chair.

Apparently science is as yet unable to tell when a harmless victim of mental diseases will become dangerous. He may work along for years, a perfectly good servant, and then suddenly and without the slightest warning he develops a homicidal tendency and commits murder. The simple truth of the matter is there is no such a thing as a harmless sufferer from brain disorders. They are always dangerous and should always be so regarded.

The Negro who was responsible for the tragedy at the Rockview prison Wednesday will be examined by alienists, who will report on his condition. The report will disclose what was generally known around the prison before the murder. Then he will be taken to Farview and probably spend the rest of his days there. The sad part of this case is that no one will heed the warning and put "harmless" mental disease patients where they will do no harm.

ROME, N. Y.
SENTINEL

JAN 14 1932

The Selection of "Trusties"

Fred Collins, a Negro was sentenced to serve from 10 to 20 years in a Pennsylvania penitentiary for second degree murder. He was adjudged a psychopathic case and for four years he had been under the care of the chief of that ward in the prison. The physician came to have such confidence in him that Collins was made a "trustie" and employed as "a cook and a guard" in the doctor's home, to which he had "free access." But on Wednesday he surprised the 22-year-old daughter of the family in the bathroom; first assaulted her, as the dispatch expresses it, then hacked off her head with a butcher knife. After that he "walked a half mile to the prison and surrendered."

Perhaps there has never been a more flagrant instance of a prison "trustie" violating faith, though there have been enough cases of misplaced confidence finding their way into the news from time to time, taking the country by and large, to cause one to wonder repeatedly on what basis jailers, wardens and other officials make their selections of convict assistants. Experience would seem to have proved abundantly that virtually every prisoner is a potential menace to keepers and wardens, no matter what his previous record has been. But particularly where a murder is involved, the theory of long sentences or capital punishment rests on the likelihood that the culprit will revert to unlawful slayings at any time.

A physician in charge of a psychopathic ward might ordinarily be assumed to know more about such cases as come within his care than the rest of us; yet the Pennsylvania tragedy proves that this is not necessarily true.

ADMISSION OF 16-YR.-OLD KILLER CALLED HOAX

Afro-American

2/20/32

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—Is the Lutz murder case "solution" a hoax?

An official of prominence in the Philadelphia police department said Tuesday that the "confession" of William Brown, 16-year-old mentally weak boy, to the murder of Dorothy Lutz, seven-year-old white girl, on February 5, was unquestionably secured through "third degree" methods.

He said he believed the boy's reported delight in subsequent detailing and re-enacting the crime before police cameras early Sunday morning was in itself a partially insane reaction to police brutality: causing the lad to get a morbid delight in the resultant publicity he has secured.

It was indicated that Willie was so overwhelmed at thus being placed in the spotlight that he was hardly aware of the seriousness of his situation.

Living all his life in Philadelphia's most miserable and poverty-stricken section, without food most of the time, his mother, a poor widow, with two other children to take care of, Willie's present situation, whereby he has been transformed from a nobdy to a "desperate criminal" in the opinion of police, has turned his head, this official says.

"Though hardly guilty of such a crime, he gets a big kick out of 'confessing' to it," he added.

It was also stated that in this man's opinion, little Dorothy Lutz was attacked and slain by a half-witted foreigner.

Mrs. Mathilda Brown, mother of the boy, declared when she first learned the crime had been fastened on her son, that "the police have beaten a confession out of him."

Willie himself, is enjoying his situation hugely. In a secreted cell at the city hall, where he is being kept "for fear of mob violence," according to Philadelphia daily newspapers, the boy eats three big meals a day, presents a pleasant countenance: and adds more and more imaginary "details" to his supposed crime.

An initiated ring and several strands of hair which police said they found with the body fail to fit into the 'confession," as the hair was that of a white man and the ring would not fit any of Willie's fingers.

RE-ENACTS CHILD'S MURDER

Philadelphia Negro Youth Shows Police How He Killed Girl.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

2-15-32

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 14.—In an ntenanted dwelling in the lower northeast section of the city, while the neighborhood slept this morning, William Brown, a 16-year-old Negro, re-enacted in the presence of police the murder of Dorothy Lutz, 7 years old.

Brown, a few hours earlier had confessed that, with the promise of a jumping rope for a present, he had enticed the girl into the vacant house on the afternoon of Feb. 3 and had strangled her to death and assaulted her. Then he slipped to his own home next door and went to bed. The child's body was found five days later.

Each movement in his re-enactment of the slaying was snapped by a police photographer.

Afterward he was returned to his cell at the City Hall.

The Negro was arrested on Friday as a direct result of his mother's anxiety as to his whereabouts.

HELD FOR 36 HOURS MINUS FOOD, SAYS ATTORNEY

Courier

3-5-32

Pittsburgh, Pa.

PHILADELPHIA, Mar. 3—Willie Brown, the 16-year-old colored boy, about whom the white press have made much to do in the alleged murder of Dorothy Lutz, absolutely denies any participation in or knowledge of the death of this young child. He gives a very vivid and unusual account of his experiences from the time that he was arrested on Friday, Feb. 12th, until the time that he was forced into a confession on the following day, Saturday, Feb. 13th, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

In consultation with his attorneys, Raymond Pace Alexander, Esq., and Robert N. C. Nix, Esq., who have volunteered their services to defend this friendless and much maligned youth, he stated that he was arrested while on his way home to see his mother, shortly before noon time the 12th of February.

He was taken to the police station at Eighth and Jefferson streets and then the police began to question him about the murder of Dorothy Lutz. He said he had read of the murder but did not know the girl, other than he learned that she lived in the street, but certainly had nothing to do with either enticing her nto the house next door to his home r having anything to do with the hild. He was kept without food or vater from noon time of the 12th of 'ebruary and was continually questioned from then until three o'clock he following morning, without even aving a glass of water or a bite to eat. He was literally sweated with undreds of questions from a large umber of detectives and police officers, who took turns in threatening im, beating him, and using other nethods of trying to have him admit is guilt. He was able to snatch a few hours of sleep after three o'clock but was awakened again at 6 o'clock Saturday morning and was questioned again until four o'clock on Saturday afternoon without having anything to eat. He says he was threatened by the police and beaten, arms twisted and otherwise mistreated and that they told him he would be taken out by the mob and lynched, if he did not confess.

It was at four o'clock Saturday afternoon, after 28 hours of continuous harrassing, threatening, beating and starving, that he was forced into a confession. An examination of the mother and family of the boy by his lawyers, who have volunteered their services to aid this youth, revealed the fact that this boy had never shown any tendencies whatsoever toward perversion or familiarity with young children. On the other hand he had many friends among older girls and women and abhorred playing with children and especially girls. It should also be noted here that Willie Brown has typical Negro hair of the kinky, wooly type and not of the type that could have been "the long strands of hair found in the child's hands."

PHILLY POLICE LACK EVIDENCE IN BROWN CASE

Afro American

PHILADELPHIA. — Complete lack by police of proof of a motive in the alleged "confession" of 16-year-old Willie Brown to the murder of seven-year-old Dorothy Lutz on February 8 is but one of many weak points in the prosecution, Robert N. C. Nix, associate defense counsel, told the AFRO Saturday.

The unnamed disposition of the initialed ring found beneath the dead girl's body in a deserted house on North American Street was also solved by the lawyer. He stated that the ring is still in the hands of police officials, having seen it recently, himself.

Police stated early in the case that the claimant's name would not be given "in order to save him embarrassment." They said that Brown had found the ring recently. According to this latest information, however, the ring, with its engra initials "D.L.V." has not been claimed by anyone.

Deoails of a bill of particulars to be filed by defense attorneys in the case were to be revealed Monday.

Assistant District Attorney Fenerty argued that there was ample reason to hold the defendant for the grand jury on the testimony of the captain, which was a mere verbal recital of the alleged history of Brown in the case. The court dismissed the writ of habeas corpus and Brown, who had sat quietly with his lawyer in court, was returned to the Moyamensing Prison to await action by the grand jury.

Nix also revealed Saturday that police had sought to have Mrs. Brown, mother of the defendant, sign a statement that her son had been led into the crime because of suppressed sexual desire. This would have given police a motive for the alleged confession. The confession (if it exists), is of little value without proof of a motive and proof of identity by eye witnesses.

If the grand jury indicts, the case will reach trial on Monday, March 28, before Judge McDevitt.

Negro Youth Is Tried For Strangling Of Girl

Advertiser

3-29-32

PHILADELPHIA, March 28.—(AP)—William Brown, 16-year-old negro, went on trial today on a charge of murder in connection with the slaying of seven-year-old Dorothy Lutz. Selection of the jury was retarded by scruples of veniremen against capital punishment.

The session lasted less than three hours, with only five jurors chosen and the panel of 50 exhausted.

Police said Brown confessed he attacked and strangled the child after he lured her into a vacant house last month.

Montgomery, Ala.

Brown's counsel was denied a motion for continuance of the case shortly after the trial started

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Ofay Girl Admits Kidnapping Lie

Afro-American

PHILADELPHIA.—Dora Gershoı 19-year-old white girl who said sh held a tryst in an apartment hous in South Street with a whit boy friend, from last Saturday until Monday, admitted that her previous excuse to her parents tha she had been kidnapped by fou colored men and held captive fc $300 ransom was not true.

5-28-32

She made the admission after aı hour of questioning by detectives When she reached her home Monday, her family said a colored maı had telephoned, evidently at her direction, and said that she was ı Darby, Pa. This gave her the ide: of telling the kidnapping story, sh admitted

Balto. Md.

GIRL ADMITS FRAME-UP

CLAIM KIDNAPPING BY COLORED MEN—ADMITS LIE TO COVER ESCAPADE

Guardian

Philadelphia, May 26, 1932—(By CNS)—Dora Gershon, white, 19 years of age, the daughter of a laundry owner here, stayed away from home over the week end and on returning gave as an excuse that she had ben kidnapped by four "Negro" men. It was also claimed that Gershon reported to the police that his daughter was held for 35 hours and released only on payment of $300 ransom to the kidnappers.

5-28-32

As a result of these stories four were sought for having committed the crime. Now she has been arrested and faces a trial in Morals Court where her week end escapade will be aired.

Boston, Mass.

After several hours grilling by detectives the girl broke down and confessed that she had not been kidnapped as she reported when she arrived home last Monday. She told police that she used that as an alibi to cover up her week end activity.

Arrested with her was a white man in whose company she is alleged to have been.

Lynchings-1932

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

South Carolina.

3806

ATTEMPTED ATTACKER CAUGHT IN CAROLINA

11-24-32

Atlanta Jour

WALHALLA, S. C., Nov. 23.—(A

John Wood, 25-year-old negro sought by several hundred possemen for two attempted assaults on white women in the Westminster section, was captured late today by Sheriff J. H. Thomas and taken to jail elsewhere in the state for safekeeping.

Sheriff Thomas said the negro confessed, "but lied around a good bit" about the particulars.

Assault Suspect Eludes Searchers

Montg Adv.

WALHALLA, S. C., Oct. 30 (AP).—A hunt near the Georgia line for an unidentified Negro accused of attempting to assault an 18-year-old Oconee county girl was called off Sunday.

10-31-32

Officers expressed belief the Negro had boarded a freight train and asked police at cities and towns between Atlanta and Greenville to search trains for him.

Ga.

The girl surprised the Negro robbing her home Saturday and he seized her. Her screams brought her father and the Negro fled.

Lynchings-1932

Tennessee

3807

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

Negro Boy Arrested For Alleged Assault Attempt

Advertiser

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., Jan. 16.—(AP)—George Wolfe, negro elevator operator, accused of attempting to assault a 16-year-old high school girl here last night, was arrested at Stevenson, Ala., at noon today and returned here last night. The search for the boy had spread to several communities.

1-17-32

Montgomery, Ala.

Officers at Stevenson had been notified to look out for the fugitive and when they stopped a freight train on the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railroad saw Wolfe between two cars. He admitted his identity but denied attacking the girl, declaring that another negro who worked in the building is the guilty party.

On arrival here Wolfe admitted the attack, the officers said.

FLIMSY EVIDENCE USED TO FRAME 19 YEAR OLD BOY

American

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — (CNA) — A brown shirt and a pair of brown pants, both several sizes too large for the person they are supposed to fit, is the sum-total of the "evidence" which the Chattanooga police have gathered in one of the most brazen frame-ups on record. On the basis of this "evidence", they hope to send a 19-year-old boy to the electric chair.

6-4-32

George Robinson, 19 a student at the Howard High school, is charged with assaulting Mrs. E. D. Woods, a woman of 50. Robinson was arrested less than two hours after the crime was supposed to have been committed.

Gary Indiana

The facts in the case are that the boy had been at his home all morning, until just a few minutes before he was arrested. The night before, he had been at a high school play, and woke up late Wednesday. He was home all morning sleeping, and had gone only a block from his house when he was arrested.

Because Mrs. Woods said she had been assaulted by a Negro with brown pants and a brown shirt, police went to Robinson's house and hunted until they found a brown shirt and brown pants. Although the shirt is several sizes too large for him and belongs to his step brother and the pants are too big and belong to his step-father, they are being used against this boy. The police state that the finding of these clothes "psitively identifies" Robnson as the assailant.

The International Labor Defense of Chattanooga sent a delegation of workers to visit the boy's family immediately after the frame-up became known, and offered advice and assitance in fighting the case.

SEARCH FOR NEGROES IS BEING CONTINUED

Commercial Appeal

Archibald's Condition Is Serious—Girl Can't Talk.

9-30-32

Memphis

A doctor's orders prevented Miss Mary Louise Johnston, 17, from aiding sheriff's deputies yesterday in their search for two negroes who assaulted her Wednesday night near Douglass Park, but the search went forward. Two suspects arrested soon after the assault were released yesterday, when an alibi was established. No other suspects were arrested during the day.

Still suffering from shock and nervousness, Miss Johnston's condition was such that her physician would not allow her to go to the sheriff's office to make a statement, and give further descriptions of the negroes.

Officers obtained a partial statement from Miss Johnston's companion, Hollis Archibald, 19, 944 Ayres, at St. Joseph's Hospital Wednesday night before he dropped into unconsciousness from the effect of a bullet wound in the abdomen. Archibald remained in a serious condition at the hospital last night, following an operation early yesterday morning. He was semi-conscious at times but attendants reported that he is only "holding his own."

Archibald was shot by one of the negroes as he made a vain fight to protect Miss Johnston. He told police that one of the negroes was about 25 and the other about 35, and gave partial descriptions, but said that he would be able to recognize only one of them.

"Miss Johnston and I parked on Douglass, north of Chelsea, about 11:15 p.m.," Archibald said. "Suddenly two negroes came up to the car and put a pistol on us, and they got on the running board of the car and made us drive north on Douglass to a field where they made me get out, and they took what I had, a little change.

"Then they took Miss Johnston out of the car and one attacked her and when I saw that I grabbed them and one shot me. They both assaulted her and left and she helped me into the car."

This statement to officers contrasted with Archibald's statement to his father, who reported that the boy had said the negroes jumped to the running board on Jackson Avenue and forced the couple to drive to Douglass Park.

Miss Johnston is a student at Tech High. Her mother, Miss Margaret C. Johnston, 1214 Faxon, is a Treadwell School teacher. Deputies Key and Campassi are investigating.

Lynchings-1932

Virginia

3809

Rape: Alleged Attacks by Negroes.

NOT "YELLOW," DARK YOUTH GIVEN BOND

Guide

6-11-32

Was Held For Attack On White Girl

Norfolk, Va.

LURAY, Va.—Because he is dark and not "yellow," Leon Fry, 17-year-old farm worker of this neighborhood, was released on $1,500 bond last Friday, of charges that he criminally attacked a 10-year-old white girl here. The alleged attack occurred April 27, as the girl was walking along a wooded lane on her return from school.

Immediately following the girl's information that she had been attacked, authorities sought Fry, who took refuge in a thicket near here. He was sought by an armed posse, which was withdrawn when Nathan Sedwick, white farmer for whom the youth worked, promised to deliver him to authorities.

Journal and Guide

Placed in the Harrisonburg jail for safe keeping, the youth denied any guilt in the attack. The sheriff and Fry's employer both attested to their belief of his innocence. Feeling was divided, with the jail guarded against threatened mob violence.

The girl told Sedwick that her attacker was a "yellow" Negro, where as Fry is very dark. In addition, all of Fry's time on the day of the attack was accounted for, with the exception of 15 minutes.

Brought to trial June 3, the youth was released under $1,500 bond for a new trial, when the jury failed to agree. The bond surety was furnished by Sedwick, who is a former sheriff of Craig County.

Negro Attacker Found Hanging; Verdict Suicide

Advertiser

9-17-32

Montgomery, Ala.

WARRENTON, VA., Sept. 16.—(AP)—A coroner's verdict today held that Shadrack Thompson, negro, sought in Fauquier County for an alleged attack on Mr. and Mrs. Henry Baxley, July 12, committed suicide. The body was found hanging from a tree near Linden, Va.

Before officers, summoned from Warrenton, could reach the place, a large crowd gathered and attempted to set fire to the decomposed body, Sergt. F. F. Hall said.

Officers, who saved the negro's head and part of his clothing, said they made a positive identification.

Lynchings-1932

Rape by Whites.

Alabama

3830

Little 12 Year Negro Girl Raped by Ala. White Man

Daily Worker

5-6-32

Negro Reformist Newspapers and Preachers Join Police in Covering Up Vicious Crime

BIRMINGHAM, May 5. — Little Murdis Dixon, a Negro school girl, small for her age and weighing less than 75 pounds, was decoyed by a white man into an unpopulated wooded section of Birmingham near village creek about 4 o'clock in the afternoon of April 26. The white man was well dressed and called at the girl's home upon the pretext that he wanted to employ a girl to stay at his home and take care of his mother and four-year-old daughter for the evening. Murdis' mother was sick and she herself had just come home from school.

She went with the man to earn the much needed pennies which he offered to pay. When they reached the woods, he attacked her, throwing her to the ground. When she screamed, he threatened he would kill her with an open knife which he drew.

She returned home some time later in a semi-conscious state. Her clothes were bloody and torn. Her father took her to a doctor who found her condition so serious that she was rushed to a hospital for treatment. The police were notified but nothing has been done, not even mention was made in the local news.

It is not considered news because it is the usual event in the South, the regular pastime of the southern white ruling class.

The girl's father wanted to go to the newspapers, but was advised by Negro preachers and misleaders to hush it up on the pretext that it would be harder to catch the white man. The poor father helpless under the oppressive conditions under the white bosses of the South did not know what to do until he heard that an International Labor Defense lawyer was in town, and knowing that the I.L.D. fights for all workers white or black, went to him for help. The International Labor Defense is investigating this case.

In the meantime teh white boss ravisher goes free while the Scottsboro Negro boys, known to be innocent of the framed-up charge, languish in the death cells of Kilby Alabama.

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12 YEAR OLD NEGRO CHILD BRUTALLY ATTACKED AND RAVISHED

5-7-32

Birmingham, Ala., May 2—Little Murdis Dixon, a colored school girl, small for her age and weighing less than 75 pounds, was decoyed by a white man into an unpopulated wooded section of Birmingham near a village creek about four o'clock in the afternoon of April 26. The white man was well dressed and called at the girl's home upon the pretext that he wanted to employ a girl to stay at his home and take care of his mother and four year old daughter for the evening. Murdis' mother was sick and she herself had just come home from school.

She went with the man to earn the much needed pennies which he offered to pay. When they reached the woods, he attacked her, throwing her to the ground. When she screamed, he threatened he would kill her with his open knife which he drew.

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In the meantime the white ravisher goes free while the Scottsboro Negro boys, known to be innocent of the frameup charge languish in the death cells of Kilby, Ala.

TWELVE YEAR OLD GIRL IS RAPED BY WHITE MAN

Reporter

The Kingston community, in eastern section of Birmingham, was considerably stirred last Wednesday evening when twelve-year-old Murtice Dixon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wiley Dixon, 4604 Ninth Court, reported a brutal attack by a white man. 5-7-32

The story of the attack was related to The Reporter by the child's father, who said that on Wednesday afternoon, April 27th, after Murtice had come home from school a white man came to the Dixon home at 4604 Ninth Court, and told the child's mother, Mrs. Lucy Dixon, that he wanted someone to stay with his sick wife and child for a few hours until he could go into town, telling them that he lived on Tenth Avenue and 45th Street, which is a short distance from the Dixon home, both the mother and the child's grandmother, Mrs. Emma Wise, told the man they could not go. He urged them to let the girl go as she could serve as well. They agreed and Murtice left with the man for his home. He promised 75 cents' pay for her service.

Birmingham Ala.

When they had passed beyond the point where the man claimed he lived and had crossed railroad tracks over to Village Creek in a section near the Airport the girl states the man forced her with threats of death to submit to the brutal attack, raped the girl and left her to get home as best she could.

It was about 6:30 o'clock when the child reached home and reported the attack. A physician was called in and made an examination and ordered her sent to the hospital, where she spent Thursday and was permitted to go home with her mother that evening.

The description of the white man is given that he was about five feet six inches tall, weight about 140 pounds, full faced, greyish hair, has what appears to be a double tooth on right side of mouth where one tooth overlaps another. He wore a grey cap, blue shirt and khaki pants.

Officers were notified, the father states, and are working on the case, but so far have not found the man.

The victim of the attack is resting fairly well.

The Dixons have been living at the Ninth Court address about two months, the father works at odd jobs, not being able to get regular work.

A case quite similar to this one was reported last fall in Fairfield when an eight-year-old girl was horribly raped by two white men when her mother had let the child go with them upon their statement that the child could stay for a few hours with a sick baby.

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12 YEAR OLD CHILD IS ASSAULTED BY WHITE MAN IN ALA.

Independent

5-6-32

Atlanta Ga.

Little Murdis Dixon, a Negro school girl, smal for her age and weighing less than 75 pounds, was decoyed by a white man into an unpopulated wooded section of Birmingham near village creek about four o'clock in the afternoon of April 26. The white man was well dressed and called at the girl's home upon the pretext that he wanted to employ a girl to stay at his home and take care of his mother and four-year-old daughter for the evening. Murdis mother was sick and she herself had just come home from school.

She went with the man to earn the much needed pennies which he offered to pay. When they reached the woods, he attacked her, throwing her to the ground. When she screamed, he threatened he would kill her with an open knife which he drew.

She returned home some time later in a semi-conscious state. Her clothes were bloody and torn. Her father took her to a doctor who found her condition so serious that she was rushed to a hospital for treatment. The police were notified, but nothing has been done, not even mention was made in the local news.

It is not considered news because it is the usual event in the South.

The girl's father wanted to go to the newspapers, but was advised by Negro preachers and misleaders to hush it up on the pretext that it would be harder to catch the whie man. The poor faher helples under the oppressive conditions did not know what to do. The International Labor Defense is investigating this case.

In the meantime the white boss ravisher goes free while the Scottsboro Negro boys, known to be innocent of the frame-up charge, languish iln the death cell of Kilby, Alabama.—Exchange

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RAPES RACE GIRL, FREE

IN ALA. WHERE 8 COLORED FRAMED IN RAPING 2 WH HARLOTS WHITE MAN RAVISHES 12-YEAR OLD COLORED GIRL AND IS NOT EVEN ARRESTED

Guardian

5-7-32

Boston Mass

Birmingham, Ala., May 2, 1932 — Little Murdis Dixon, a Colored school girl, small for her age and weighing less than 75 pounds, was decoyed by a white man into an unpopulated wooded section of Birmingham near village creek about four o'clock in the afternoon of April 26. The white man was well dressed and called at the girl's home upon the pretext that he wanted to employ a girl to stay at his home and take care of his mother and four-year-old daughter for the evening. Murdis' mother was sick and she herself had just come home from school.

She went with the man to earn the much needed pennies which he offered to pay. When they reached the woods, he attacked her, throwing her to the ground. When she screamed, he threatened he would kill her with an open knife which he drew.

She returned home some time later in a semi-conscious state. Her clothes were bloody and torn. Her father took her to a doctor who found her condition so serious that she was rushed to a hospital for treatment. The police were notified, but nothing has been done, not even mention was made in the local news.

It is not considered news because it is the usual event in the South.

Not Even Arrested

The girl's father wanted to go to the newspapers, but was advised by Colored preachers and misleaders to hush it up on the pretext that it would be harder to catch the white man. But he saw an International Labor Defense lawyer. The International Labor Defense is investigating this case.

In the meantime the white boss ravisher goes free while the Scottsboro Colored boys, known to be innocent of the framed-up charge, languish in the death cells of Kilby, Alabama.

YOUNG GIRL PARALYZED AFTER ATTACK, CLAIM

Courier 6-18-32

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., June 16.—Poor little Murtice Dixon, only 12, may be paralyzed the balance of her life as the gruesome aftermath of a beastly attack here recently by an unknown white man. According to information received the white fiend carried the girl in his arms across a pond and then committed the assault.

This tragedy is the fourth instance of young colored girls being the victims of attacks by unknown white men.

Police were given descriptions of each of the fiends but no arrests have been made thus far.

Lynchings-1932

Arkansas

3824

Rape by Whites.

2 BROTHERS SOUGHT IN ATTACK ON WOMEN

Constitution
6-8-32
Atlanta, Ga.

NEWPORT, Ark., June 7.—(AP)—Two young farmer-brothers hidden in the tangled underbrush of the White river bottom lands near here were wanted today for criminally assaulting two women early yesterday and wounding an aged relative who tried to protect them.

Formal charges had been placed against Troy and Roy Dunn, of the Alicia community, Sheriff Gray Albright said, and Orville Simmons, one of their neighbors, was wanted for questioning.

J. P. Robirds, an aged farmer, was found by neighbors in a serious condition from a bullet wound. Sheriff Albright said he told of admitting the Dunn brothers and another man to his home about 11 o'clock Sunday night.

Using a pistol to intimidate the old man and two women, one his granddaughter and the other his daughter-in-law, Sheriff Albright said he was told the men took possession of the house and remained there until about 3 o'clock yesterday morning, drinking and repeatedly attacking the women.

Robirds was wounded when he lunged at the man holding him at bay with the gun.

Lynchings-1932

D.C.

3825

Rape by Whites.

THREE WHITE MEN ACCUSED OF RAPE ON COLORED GIRL

Two Are Held At Second Precinct While Police Seek Third Assailant

Tribune 8-20-32

The sixth case of criminal assault upon young girls in the northwest section of the city was reported to Second Precinct Police this week. Two white men were being held and a third sought by police of this precinct in connection with an alleged attack upon a nineteen-year-old colored girl, Sunday night. Washington D.C.

The men arrested are Charles B. Phelps and John P. Priesers, of unknown addresses, while James Collins, cab driver, is being sought for.

According to the girl's story to police, she was walking on Ninth street near New York avenue northwest, when three white men drove up in a Yellow Cab. Two of the men jumped out, grabbed her and put her in the machine, where they threatened to kill her if she cried for help. The men are alleged to have held the girl to the floor of the moving car.

After riding around a while, the men stopped at 1305 P street, northwest, a rooming house, where they carried her to a room on the second floor and all three committed a criminal assault upon her.

The girl was taken to Gallinger Hospital for treatment. She also told police that the men robbed her of $2.50.

OFAY GETS ONLY 30 DAYS FOR CHILD ATTACK

Afro-American

7-30-32

Baltimore, Md.

WASHIHNGTON—Ernest Joseph Acosta, white, 40, of 730 Third Street, nw., who pleaded guilty last week to a charge of assault on seven-year-old Ida Alston, of 115 4½ Street, sw., was sentenced to thirty days in jail by Judge Ralph Givens in the police court, Saturday morning.

Acosta had at first pleaded not guilty, but withdrew that plea in the course of his trial last week.

Lynchings-1932

Georgia

3826

Rape by Whites.

SIX-YEAR-OLD CHILD IS VICTIM OF FIENDISH ACT

Journal ~~and~~ Guide

Her White Atlanta Neighbor's Cause Man's Arrest

3-12-32

ATLANTA, Ga.—After severely reprimanding him for his alleged attack on a little six-year-old colored girl, Judge J. H. Cohen in Recorder's Court last week, ordered H. B. Mullix, white, bound over to the Fulton County grand jury without bond on a charge of rape. Several white witnesses testified in the committment trial that they, entering the house with police, found Mullix in bed.

The attack with which the 60-year-old Greek is charged, occurred Tuesday afternoon at 651 McDonald Street. Police, upon being summoned to the address, found Mullix undressed and in a compromising position with the child. Screams of the frightened tot attracted the attention of white neighbors, who called the police.

Norfolk, Va.

Doctors Confirm Attack

Mullix was intoxicated when they entered the two-story frame building, according to the police, and was standing on the stairway while the little girl lay prostrate on a cot in the corner, where she had apparently cried herself to sleep. The Greek attempted to attack the police bu was subdued and taken to the station

The girl was rushed to Grady hospital, where doctors in the emergenc clinic confirmed the belief of officer that the degenerate man had criminally assaulted her. It was expecte Tuesday night that he would b bound over to the Fulton grand jur after facing Judge J. H. Callowa in Recorder's court Wednesda morning.

Victim is Interviewed

Interviewed shortly after the at tack the little girl still in a weakene condition from the shock of the assault, told how Mullix had lured her away from her home by offering her candy.

When the small child, sensing danger, attempted to return to the house, according to the story she told police, the man picked her up in his hands and carried her to his residence, muffling her frantic pleas for help, by keeping a dirty hand over her mouth.

He carried her to the basement where he is alleged to have attacked her, after throwing her on the bed.

Denies Kidnaping

Questioned at the city jail, the aged Greek told reporters that the girl followed him to his house and that he had not kidnaped her as she had told police.

According to his statement, he had known the father of the girl for quite some time and had signed the latter's bond when he was arrested on a charge of possessing whiskey. He denied having attacked the girl and explained his being found unclad by police by saying that he "was changing his clothes."

Lynchings - 1932

3818

Rape by Whites.

Honolulu, Hawaii

Chicago Pastors Air Views on Situation in Hawaii

Defender 1-16-32 Chicago Def

As an aftermath of the tense situa-situation in Hawaii, resulting in the alleged killing of a native by Americans, ministers of the African Methodist Episcopal church of Chicago and vicinity are deeply concerned and resentful of the press reports and editorials of the white papers, notably the Chicago Tribune, whose sentiments and opinions, according to the ministers, are predicated on the idea that steps should be taken to make Hawaii safe for white women.

The situation on the island developed after the killing of a native, Joseph Kahahawai, who was alleged to have raped Mrs. Thomas H. Massie, wife of an American naval officer. Under arrest as the slayers are the woman's husband, Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, United States navy; Mrs. Granville Fortescue, Massie's mother-in-law, whose husband is a prominent soldier, and two seamen. The civil trial of the defendants is expected to begin soon.

The open letter of the ministers follows:

"To the Chicago Tribune. The ministers of the African Methodist Episcopal church of Chicago and vicinity in their regular weekly meeting assembled do hereby deplore the unfortunate outbreaks of lawlessness in Hawaii and stand ready to lend the full weight and influence of our churches to every legitimate law enforcing agency in charge of the island.

"We know, however, from bitter experience in this country that the strength of the law must be found in its universality. We therefore deeply regret the editorial and front page dispatch of the Chicago Tribune on Jan. 12, 1932, saying that 'The island must be made safe for white women.' White women will be safe only if all women are safe.

"In this connection it must be borne in mind that students of primitive peoples all agree that rape is an unknown crime among them until the Caucasian brings them his civilization. The evidence in this case is not complete until the answer is given the question: 'Who brought rape to Hawaii?' — [Signed] A. Wayman Ward, president; H. L. P. Jones, secretary; Frederick D. Jordan, chairman; T. Reeves, W. D. Shannon, J. A. Lindsey, R. E. Wilson."

[illegible]
Monday, January [illegible], 1932

Cannot Condone Lynching

THE American Navy must not indorse the crime of lynching. And yet, in his comment upon the astonishing Honolulu tragedy, Admiral William V. Pratt, chief of operations, apparently has done so.

Mrs. Granville Fortescue, socially prominent, and widow of a famous author and playwright, is the central figure in the tragedy. She, her son-in-law, Lieutenant Thomas G. Massie, U. S. N., and an enlisted man abducted a Hawaiian native, riddled his body with bullets, and were speeding for a Hawaiian geyser, to throw the native's body therein, when arrested.

The Hawaiian was one of five who, last September, brutally attacked Mrs. Fortescue's daughter, who is Lieutenant Massie's wife.

Mrs. Fortescue, Lieutenant Massie and the enlisted man were taken aboard an American warship, and are safe from the wrath of the natives in Honolulu. But the spirit which has been aroused by the affair has brought about a situation in Hawaii which is menacing and ominous in the extreme.

Sympathy of the Navy is openly with Mrs. Fortescue and Lieutenant Massie. In view of the circumstances, this is not surprising. The statement by Admiral Pratt, in Washington, however, is too astonishing to go unnoticed. He declared:

> American men will not stand for the violation of their women under any circumstances. For this crime, they have taken the matter into their own hands repeatedly when they have felt that the law has failed to do justice.

Such a statement, condoning lynching, coming from one of the highest naval officials, should be repudiated by Secretary Adams without further delay. However, the Navy Department itself has shown sympathy with the crime by releasing official reports tending to show that hoodlums in Honolulu have attacked numerous women; that police are powerless, and that taking the law in their own hands was the rights of Mrs. Fortsecue and Lieutenant Massie.

Admiral Stirling, stationed at Honolulu, immediately after the arrest of Mrs. Fortescue and her son-in-law, took them from the civil authorities and carried them aboard a warship. This was done ostensibly to safeguard them. But the sympathy shown them in the Navy and through Admiral Stirling's own statements is certain further to arouse the Hawaiians, who contend that the lynchers were taken aboard the warship to protect from from proper trial.

It is easy to understand the anguish of Mrs. Fortescue and Lieutenant Massie over the attack upon Mrs. Massie, which occurred last September 12. It was a starry but moonless night. She had just left a party in a cafe in the heart of Wakiki. Five men, natives, in an automobile, halted her. She was dragged into the machine and struck on the jaw. She was attacked at a lonely spot not far from the famous beach of Wakiki. Mrs. Massie crawled, hysterical, along the coral beach to a roadside. Passing motorists picked her up. Five men were arrested, and four them were identified by Mrs. Massie. And yet the jury at their trial was deadlocked and dismissed. The men of the Navy were incensed. The feeling aroused culminated last week in the astonishing venture into lynching by Mrs. Fortsecue and Lieutenant Massie.

The record of American and European sailors in despoiling the islands of the South Seas, in ruining the morals and the health of the native tribes, is too well known to need comment here. The natives have turned about. The Hawaiian officials claim, however, that, while there were forty-four alleged criminal assaults in Honolulu during the past year, investigation showed that in only three cases was the criminal assault committed. The others, the officials listed, cryptically, as "sex cases."

Nevertheless, the attack upon Mrs. Massie, whose husband is a member of the well-known Winchester, Ky., family, was a horrible affair The deadlocked jury, and failure to mete out stern justice, added further to the anguish of the mother and husband. But, after the lynching of last week, for Admiral Pratt actually officially to condone the lynching places the entire Navy in the position of indorsing mob rule.

It is obvious that Secretary Adams will be called upon for a clarification of the Navy's attitude. Throughout the South Seas, and in the Far East, America has preached to the natives the necessity for respecting law and order. How can we, then, condone lynching?

We Reach Honolulu

Chicago Defender 1-16-32

The Constitution follows the flag and what we are rides with the breeze which floats the proud ensign. The navy has borne into the west the spirit of the empire. We have reached Honolulu. A Hawaiian has been lynched. His end is known as murder, but only because water, which drowned him, and the automatic that barked at him in regulation "taps," were more convenient than rope.

The "honor" of the navy has been vindicated. Its prowess once more excites the applause of the kingdom of "race." A flagship is a prison for the murderers who struck in the name of our soldiers of the sea. A woman admiral led the attack against Hawaiian resistance and dispatches report the engagement as worthy of a place among the decisive battles of naval warfare. What is the navy for except to glorify the spirit of the nation? The conquering names of Jones and Perry and Farragut and Dewey must not go unremembered.

Chicago Def

The lynching of Kahahawai in Honolulu by a mob incited by a [illegible] of the navy is more despicable than the crime for which the victim stood accused and for which he had once been tried. A lady of the navy had been assaulted, a lady of the line, the social followers of the sea, who lighten the heavy hours of sartorial heroes, and impress social eminence upon the underlings of our colonies. Such a crime as five men, one of whom paid for it in the currency of American law, committed would drive men to revolt, but the processes of the legal machinery of civilization stay the hand of violence.

But there is bad blood in Honolulu, city of the nations, where Americans have not always spared the alluring beauties of the tropics. The feeling is that all women, or none, should be secure against the impressment of brutality. The color of men got into the situation. American whites looked down on color but color in Honolulu, unlike color on the continent, refuses to look down on itself. The outbreak there could not be as sudden as it seems.

The mystic secrecy surrounding American matters distant from home well works the charm against discovery of the activities of our ministry among the far removed. Swashbucklery is all through both the army and navy, especially among our "inferior" possessions. All this, even more than this, is behind the attitude of both Hawaii and the Philippines. Accentuation is given to it by the air of American ladies attached to the courts of a gentry raised up on shoulderstraps. And so on the story goes, a story the American people might well ponder before judging the Hawaiians by the testimony of either the navy at Washington or Honolulu.

The lynching of Kahahawai is justified by William Pratt, an admiral or something in Washington, in these stirring words of law: "American men will not stand for the violation of their women under any circumstances. For this crime they have taken the law into their hands repeatedly when they felt the law had failed to do justice."

A standard which would be accepted with enthusiasm and pride if American men were not so universally hasty in violating everybody else's women. A man's respect for his own woman is a play on words unless he yields that right to every manly breast. However,

HAWAII

[Anderson (Ind.) Herald]

Chicago Defender 1-31-32

In Hawaii the white man is reaping what he sowed, and, as is so often the case, is unwilling to accept the harvest.

When the white man found the Hawaiian islands they were, indeed, the paradise of the Pacific. The natives were happy, carefree and healthy, with a sex life that was pure and beautiful. Disease, immorality and crime were part of the "civilization" the white man introduced to the islands.

Outrages against white women by natives and half-breeds were inevitable, but while the white race is demanding protection for its women let it be consistent and demand respect from its own kind for the native women. Attacks upon a bare half dozen white women aroused to fever heat the passions of Christian whites who have never lifted a finger or uttered a word in protest against spoliation of Hawaiian womanhood by whites.

Hawaii's population has been corrupted, not improved, by contact and interbreeding with other races. American women living on the islands probably have done nothing to earn the disrespect of the natives or to encourage the attacks, but there is reason to suspect that white men living and visiting on the islands have not set the best of examples.

It has been the history of the white race that whatever it finds it either murders or despoils. Its treatment of the Indians from the time of the Spanish conquistadors up to the present time has been, with some exceptions, shameful and brutal. But it always demands good Christian treatment from heathen savages.

since to custom of the navy is to go slow on set language unless it is underwritten by the highest authority, Pratt answers the indictment of the navy lynching for Mr. Adams and, maybe, for Mr. Hoover.

The report from Honolulu by Yates Sterling, another bulldog of the fleet, enlightens the situation. The trouble started when a secret trial of the indicted men could not be had. Sterling reports:

[illegible]
1-16-32

> **Later the commandant conferred with the governor and the attorney general with a two-fold purpose. First, although the commandant was aware that a public trial was guaranteed every person accused, the commandant felt that a public trial of five men of mixed blood for the rape of a white woman would be inimical to the public welfare, because of the race question, and would also be most harassing to the woman who had already suffered so greatly. The commandant recommended a trial behind closed doors, but the attorney general rendered the opinion that the trial would be illegal, so that effort was unsuccessful.**

"Behind closed doors," although Sterling, being of the school of cannon ball, is supposed not to know this would be but inquisitorial. On the continent "five men of mixed blood," of bloods mixed at top or bottom, could be tried as fashion decreed. Even "embarrassed ladies," bold enough, however, to leave a company of protection and seek the sequestered paths that relieve the boredom of polite society, must accuse in open court. That is law.

The question of color, of race, of mixed blood, runs all through the matter and there is doubt standing at every turn of the narrative. As Sterling again reports:

> **At the present time the commandant believes the most serious aspects of this case and the general situation are the inefficiency of the police due to the system of political appointments, the lack of a qualified man or men to conduct the prosecution, and that the persons of mixed blood who have been selected as jurymen in rape cases have shown such apathy toward the crime that a just verdict is doubtful.**

Qualified men may not wish to conduct the prosecution because the prosecution is not perpendicular with good taste and custom. "Persons of mixed blood" cannot be denied the jury box in Honolulu merely to please an aroused uniform. The report from Sterling is entertaining but lacking. It has been deleted by the finger of propaganda. A Hoover commission is needed in Honolulu.

There is nothing that can be said in defense of five men who commit assault upon a lone woman. There is less to be said in defense of the navy which empties the fiendish frenzy of braggadocio upon a lone Hawaiian and disgraces the United States. Much is left to the novelist who could a story tell and a yarn spin in the intriguing language of imaginative phrasing around a lady who strangely left her husband and a company of cronies to seek surcease from boredom in a dark city street. There is a plot.

We are off; off towards the east from the west, flying the colors of lawlessness, carrying light to dark places, vindicating the bright ways of the new world with the war cry full on the air: **"All women for ourselves but not one of ours to spare."**

LYNCH-MURDER IN HAWAIIA

Judging from press reports, it looks as though the lynching of an Hawaiian by United States citizens will not turn out to be as popular in the Hawaiian Islands as this American pastime is in the United States.

Argus

In the case of the lynch-murder of Joseph Kahahawai, the well known coined phrase, "attack upon a white woman," was used by his assailants to justify their deed. But these people did not take into consideration that, although the Hawaiian Islands are governed by America, there is a vastly different sentiment in the islands among people of color from that which is prevalent in the United States. Therefore, the news of a strong protest and demonstration on the part of the natives against mob violence comes to us with no great surprise.

1-15-32

Press reports have it that Admiral William V. Pratt, chief of naval operations, had done much to stir up racial feeling by attempting to justify the lynch-murder when he is quoted as saying, "American men will not stand for the violation of their women. For this crime, they have taken the matter into their own hands, repeatedly, when they have felt that the law has failed to do justice." This is typical of the statements which are printed in connection with lynchings in the United States. If such statements, coming from a naval official, cause the natives to rise against the whites to the extent that public bloodshed should follow, who is to blame?

St. Louis, Mo.

In this connection, we think that it is rather significant that two white ministers, who have churches in these islands, had the courage to speak out against the conduct of Admiral Pratt. Both had the courage to say that he was unfit for the high office which he holds and should be immediately demoted by the president of the United States. One minister had this to say, "As a Christian minister and as a citizen of this republic, conceived and established in justice and liberty, I protest at this sanction and approval given to lawlessness, and at this individual interpretation of vengeance which thus mocks civilized society."

These ministers, no doubt, take the position they do because the American mob spirit has been a great hindrance to them in their ministerial work; for it is a well known fact that in all foreign countries it is generally conceded that the American civilization and Christianity is synonymous with arrogance and mob violence. This is especially true with the darker races of the world. The fate which came to the Hawaiian is the result of color prejudice which is a curse to American civilization.

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sense of feeling has the deepest sympathy for that mother and husband of the violated young woman, and can readily understand the force that impelled them to take the step which they did, but because the fiend committed the act is no reason why a further violation of the law should have been enacted. The mother, husband and others implicated in the death of the accused man are under arrest. The affair has caused a sensation in Hawaii and even in this country. The natives are especially aroused. It is stated that the attitude of the American sailors, soldiers and visitors toward the native women is resented by the men, and, no doubt, has some bearing upon the present situation. At any rate, the natives should be made to respect the person of all women and the Americans should be the ones to set the example.

Coloring the News from Hawaii.

To the Editor of the AFRO:

I am mailing a clipping from the New York Mirror which I think furnishes food for thought.

It stresses a point that Dr. Carter Woodson and I were discussing the other night. We both agreed that there was a good reason to believe that this woman who was allegedly attacked by this Hawaiian had just been caught and had bellowed rape.

I hope that you will be able to reprint this article in your columns to show the hypocrisy of the white man and how he colors his news.

Afro American
1-23-32

HERBERT W. HARRIS, D.D.S.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The article by Dorothy Mackaill reads in part as follows:

> It is little short of disgraceful to see how some white women lie on the beach at Waikiki, in abbreviated bathing suits, and permit the "beach boys' to rub them with cocoanut oil so they will get a good tan.
>
> White women can easily lose all sense of moral balance in the South Seas, and they get the first touch of it in the Hawaiian Islands.
>
> They encourage the attentions of the "black boys" all too frequently and then go with them to the lauaus. These are native feasts, where roast pig and typical Hawaiian food is served, also native liquor, the infamous okolehao, which is distilled from rice. These lauaus sometimes last several days and are highlighted with Hawaiian hula dancing.

FIRST LYNCHING

The first lynching of the year occurred last week in Honolulu, a province of this country, thus carrying to this clime the detestable lawless habit. While this lynching was not attended by a howling mob, yet it was more reprehensible, because the act was committed, allegedly so, by those who are higher up." Be it understood that we are thoroughly out of sympathy with the crime which the victim is charged and feel that if he was guilty the severest law penalty should have been inflicted. Every one with a fine

Journal
1-14-32
Birmingham, Ala.

Lynching—1932

3819

Honolulu, Hawaii.

Rape by Whites.

Four Americans Are Indicted For Hawaii Slaying

Advertiser

1-27-32

Montgomery, Ala

Mother And Husband Of Assault Victim And Two Navy Men Facing Trial

Coercion Charged

Defense Attorney Asserts Judge Faced Grand Jury To Return Accusations

HONOLULU, Jan. 26—(AP)—Prodded into action by a judge's reference to anarchy, the Honolulu Grand Jury today indicted Mrs. Granville Fortescue, society matron, and three navy men for second degree murder in the slaying of Joseph Kahahawai, alleged woman attacker.

The inquisitorial body, which apparently had attempted last week to return a negative report in the case, submitted the indictment only after Circuit Judge A. M. Cristy had raised a question of anarchy and told its individual members they should retire from the jury if they could not reconcile their convictions with the testimony and the law.

Montgomery Winn, defense attorney, anounced immediately he would file a motion tomorrow to quash the indictment on the ground coercion had been used to make the Grand Jury return the formal accusation.

Kahahawai was lured from the judiciary building Jan. 8, abducted, and slain. The killing provided a climax to a succession of crimes which had stirred the community.

Those indicted with Mrs. Fortescue are Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, U. S. N., and E. J. Lord and Albert O. Jones, enlisted navy men. Kahahawai was one of five men awaiting retrial on charges of attacking Mrs. Massie, wife of the lieutenant and daughter of Mrs. Fortescue.

Pending legal action, the four accused have been held in the custody of naval officers at Pearl Harbor. The defense recently sought dismissal of a police court murder charge against the four on the ground the prosecution had been dilatory in proceeding against them.

A transcript of Grand Jury proceedings of last Friday, made public today, indicated Judge Cristy had refused to accept a return from the inquisitorial body, but the nature of the return was not set forth. Reports had been circulated it was a "no bill," indicating the Grand Jury's disinclination to formally accuse the alleged slayers.

The transcript showed Judge Cristy had said:

"If a crime had been committed, the identity of the criminal known, and that it is criminal to the sense of the technical provision of the law, and the Grand Jury for reasons refuses to present an indictment therefor, I present to you the question of anarchy in the community.

"Are you willing to take the responsibility for that situation?"

Resumption of Grand Jury sessions today after Judge Cristy had delivered further admonitions and instructions resulted in the return of the indictment.

As the Grand Jury deliberated, attorneys for the defendants waived preliminary hearing in district court. Griffith Wight, deputy city and county attorney, objected to the procedure, but was overruled.

The Honolulu Chamber of Commerce yesterday retained Barry S. Ulrich, prominent attorney, as special prosecutor to assist James F. Gilliland, city and county attorney. Gilliland, whose administration has been criticised as the result of recent crime troubles, had been vainly seeking outside help to prosecute this case and also the retrial of the four remaining men accused of having attacked Mrs. Massie last September.

The Chamber of Commerce also retained Eugene H. Beebe, a territorial representative, to assist Gilliland in retrying the attack case.

FORTESCUE CASE INDICTMENTS HIT

Constitution

1-28-32

HONOLULU, Jan. 27.—(AP)—A motion to quash the second-degree murder indictment against Mrs. Granville Fortescue and three navy men accused of slaying a suspected woman attacker was filed today by defense attorneys who charged the grand jury had been coerced in its activities by Circuit Judge A. M. Cristy.

Atlanta, Ga.

The motion charged Judge Cristy had refused to accept a report from the investigating body last Friday, in which "no bills" were voted against Mrs. Fortescue, Lieutenant Thomas H. Massie and two navy enlisted men, E. J. Lord and Albert O. Jones.

The four are accused of abduction and slaying Joseph Kahahawai, young Hawaiian, charged with attacking Mrs. Massie last September.

After refusing to accept the "no bill" report, the motion said, Judge Cristy "proceeded in lengthy charge to again specifically charge the grand jury with reference to the criminal character of alleged acts of the defendants."

"A fair meaning of the remarks," said the quash motion, was that he "would compel members of the grand jury to deliberate until such time as they should return a bill in accordance with the views held by the court."

Predictions were made here that the three navy men would not be tried in civil court because of a "gentlemen's agreement" between Honolulu and naval authorities giving the navy jurisdiction of personnel when alleged crimes do not call for capital punishment. The maximum sentence for second degree murder is 20 years to life imprisonment.

Navy officials would not comment for publication on the prediction of a naval trial.

Angry citizens charged Tuesday that Hawaii's reform movement was a political "smoke screen" after a new outbreak of trouble in Honolulu was climaxed by a near-riot between white residents and natives.

A fight involving a woman, in which a prominent stock broker assertedly was beaten by a navy lieutenant and the latter's brother, led to the uprising of Hawaiians, police claimed.

Lieutenant Charles Lynch and his brother, Howard Lynch, narrowly escaped a mauling at the hands of unruly natives when they attempted to park their car in front of a well-known Waikiki Beach tavern Monday night.

The Hawaiian youths attempted to drag the brothers from their car. A crowd of several hundred was attracted to the scene, and at signs of resistance from the whites, the natives dispersed.

The two brothers had just been charged with battery by Earl Williams, Honolulu investment broker. He asserted that he was attacked at a party Sunday when a woman guest asked him for protection, complaining she had been choked.

The broker said he asked the brothers to apologize, whereupon they assertedly beat him with a cocktail shaker and a brass vase. The name of the woman was not divulged.

FORTESQUE ATTORNEYS MAY ASK VENUE CHANGE

2-10-32

HONOLULU, Feb. 9.—(AP)—Possibility that defense attorneys will attempt to obtain a change of venue in the trial of Mrs. Granville Foresque and three other defendants, charged with the murder of Joseph Kahahawai, young Hawaiian, was indicated today.

Constitution

Judge A. M. Cristy set the trial for March 10. The trial motion was made by Barry Ulrich, assistant attorney-general, prosecuting the case, and was unopposed by Montgomery Winn, chief of defense counsel.

Atlanta, Ga.

There was an understanding, however, that the rights of the defense to apply for a change of venue would not be impaired in event it was shown the defendants could not have a fair trial in the territory.

HONOLULU DEFENDANTS TO ENTER PLEAS TODAY

2-1-32

HONOLULU, Jan. 31.—(AP)—Three men and a woman will face a circuit judge here tomorrow in the most dramatic murder case in recent history of the Hawaiian islands. But their appearance is expected to be little more than a formality, at which they will enter pleas and a trial date will be set.

Atlanta, Ga.

The defendants, Mrs. Granville Fortescue, prominent in American society; her son-in-law, Lieutenant Thomas H. Massie, U. S. N., and two navy enlisted men, are accused of "honor" slaying of Joseph Kahahawai, Hawaiian. The trial probably will not be held for several weeks.

Moods of the White Folks

Negro World

1-23-32

New York, N.Y.

NO sane person, irrespective of his color or creed, will condone the vicious attack upon the wife of a white American marine officer at Honolulu, Hawaii, by five men—alleged to be two native Hawaiians, two Japanese and one Chinese. The Negro World condemns the perpetrators of that crime as much as any other newspaper.

But what we cannot understand is the mood of white men and women and responsible ones too, like high government officers, social leaders and newspaper editors who have been applauding the lynch spirit and lawless acts of the marines at Honolulu. We are now referring to the beating of one of the accused and killing of another by the wronged parties. Under the American law, the accused who have not been convicted by the first jury will be considered innocent until they are found guilty. But the marines who have come from South became impatient and resorted to "Southern justice," which resulted in the beating of one and killing of another as stated above.

Jingo papers like the New York Evening Post have approved this "Southern justice" in Hawaii and sought to throw all the blame on local officers and especially on the non-white population of the islands. A high army officer is talking about the "white women's honor" and thus directly instigating lawlessness among the marines.

But these very "righteous and indignant" persons have nothing to say about the atrocities committed by the white American marines on Hawaiian, Chinese, Japanese girls in those islands. Most of those cases are hushed up. A newspaper man writing in the New York Herald-Tribune has blamed the present situation on the conduct of the marines who are overbearing, uncivil and uncouth. If an investigation has to be made as is now being demanded the Congress should also delve into the behavior of its own marines.

To the Negroes the situation in Hawaii is not a new thing. Nor are the "virtues" of the white man nor his "justice." Oh, how the American white man is becoming an ever increasing burden upon more and more people and a wider and wider area! He took segregation with him to Paris and forced it on the French and now he is trying to foist lynching upon the charming people of Hawaii, to the latter's disadvantage.

Justice in Hawaii

Manchester Guardian Weekly

2-2-32

Manchester, England

The recent events in Honolulu have raised a very awkward problem for the Federal Government of the United States. There is a large body of public opinion in America which assumes that Mrs. Fortescue and the three members of the United States Navy at present detained for trial were really responsible for the death of the native Kahahawai. This section of opinion, nevertheless, condones and sympathises with their action. It assumes that there had been a failure of justice and that the friends of the victim were not only justified but doing a public service in taking the law into their own hands. It will be remembered that in parts of the United States a sudden outburst of public feeling sometimes forestalls the slow (and often corrupt) machinery of justice, or steps in where it is held to have failed. It is possible that negroes are more often restrained from crime by the fear of being lynched than by fear of the sheriff. Nevertheless it is impossible to defend lynching, and it is even more patently impossible to defend an act of private vengeance undertaken in cold blood by a small group of individuals. (p. 69)

HAWAII TENSION

U.S. Senate Postpone Inquiry

Manchester Guardian Weekly

Racial feeling is still simmering in Honolulu, and Admiral Pratt, the chief of operations, has announced that the Navy Department is considering a request from naval commanders living in Hawaii to shorten their participation in the forthcoming joint manœuvres of the Atlantic and Pacific naval forces so that they may protect their families in Hawaii.

1-22-32

The preliminary hearing of the case against Mrs. Fortescue and the three members of the United States navy charged with the murder of a Hawaiian following his acquittal by a local jury on a charge of criminal assault on Mrs. Fortescue's daughter, has been adjourned until next Saturday. Mrs. Fortescue is recovering from the nervous strain from which she has been suffering. Both the High Sheriff and the Governor of Oahu Prison have resigned and have been succeeded by the Commander of the National Guard.

Manchester

The United States Senate has decided to defer its inquiry into conditions in Hawaii until the investigation of the Department of Justice has been completed. This decision was taken after the Senate had been assured by Mr. Adams, the Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Hurley, the Secretary of War, Mr. Wilbur, the Secretary of the Interior, and Mr. Mitchell, the Attorney General, that they felt that the Department of Justice could find out what is wrong on the island.

Defense Would Disqualify Judge

Advertiser

3-10-32

HONOLULU, March 9.—(AP)—Seeking to disqualify Circuit Judge A. M. Cristy, Mrs. Granville Fortescue and her three naval codefenders accused of lynching a young Hawaiian, today filed an affidavit of prejudice against the jurist.

Montgomery Ala

If technically correct, the affidavit will automatically eliminate Judge Cristy from presiding at their second degree murder trial. Judge Cristy said he would pass upon the technical correctness of the affidavit.

The affidavit, signed by Mrs. Fortescue and her codefendants, charged that although Judge Cristy was "repeatedly notified" that the Grand Jury was ready to report a "no true bill" in the case, he refused to accept such a finding and coerced the jury into returning a second degree murder indictment.

Mrs. Fortescue, her son-in-law, Lieut Thomas H. Massie, and two Navy enlisted men, Albert P. Jones and E. J. Lord, are accused of killing Joseph Kahahawai, suspected attacker of Lieut. Massie's wife.

Judge Cristy ordered that the trial begin March 28 despite defense efforts to delay it until April 4 to allow Clarence Darrow, Chicago attorney on his way to join lawyers for the four, to study the case. The refusal of Judge Cristy to grant the time requested by the defense was the basis of another affidavit in the motion.

Darrow recently sailed from San Francisco and is nearing Hawaii now. Time was sought to permit Darrow to learn details of the defense case and to confer with other members of defense counsel.

THREE MEN ARE HELD IN HONOLULU ATTACK

Constitution

3-1-32

Paroled Japanese Convict and Two Chinese Arrested in Assault Crime.

~~Atlanta~~ Ga

HONOLULU, Feb. 29.—(AP)—Three men, one a paroled convict were held today by police, and four other men questioned concerning an assault Saturday night upon Mrs. Kathleen Hope, crippled wife of a submarine machinist, at her cottage near Waikiki beach, were released when they established alibis.

The paroled convict, a Japanese, was arrested late last night. He is 27 years old and answers the general description given by the victim in a glimpse she obtained of her assailant's face when his mask slipped. She thought him an oriental and probably a Japanese. The suspect served a term in Oahu prison for burglary and later another sentence for a sex offense, from which he was paroled. Chief of Police C. F. Weeber said he was arrested as a matter of routine, and there was no evidence to show he was implicated.

Edward Wong, a 23-year-old Chinese, remained in jail. Mrs. Hope picked his photograph from a police exhibit, but said she could not identify him positively.

Another Chinese youth, unfavorably known to the police, also was held for investigation, although he furnished an alibi.

Army Man Held For Assault In Honolulu

Advertiser

HONOLULU, June 13.—(AP)—Police today charged Sergt. E. C. Carden, 24, United States Army, with attempted criminal assault on complaint of a 20-year-old Japanese girl.

6-14-32

Two witnesses said they rescued the girl Friday night from Carden. She told police that after a number of drinks she lost consciousness.

Montgomery Ala

Carden denied the attack. Police said the case probably would be turned over to the military authorities.

U. S. Soldier Accused In Honolulu Assault.

Constitution

HONOLULU, June 13.—(AP)—Police today charged Sergeant E. C. Carden, 24, United States army, with attempted criminal assault on complaint of a 20-year-old Japanese girl. Two witnesses said they rescued the girl Friday night from Carden. She told police that after a number of drinks she lost consciousness.

6-14-32

Atlanta Ga.

Carden denied the attack. Police said the case probably would be turned over to the military authorities.

Lynchings-1932

Honolulu, Hawaii.

3820

Rape by Whites.

CRIME IN HAWAII IS SOCIAL, NOT RACIAL, PROBLEM

~~Chicago~~

Sociologists Are Studying the Situation.

~~Tribune~~

~~3-13-32~~

(Next Sunday Mr. Kinsley will discuss conditions upon the island of Hawaii, the largest and youngest of the Hawaiian archipelago.)

~~Chicago Tr~~

BY PHILIP KINSLEY.

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Tribune

3/13/32

HONOLULU, March 12.—[Special.]—These Hawaiian islands are passing through a critical period in their melting pot of the races experiment. Racial studies undertaken at the University of Hawaii, looking at the human mixture here from the cold viewpoints of anthropology, physiology, psychology, and sociology all correlated, but yet unpublished, indicate that crime and delinquency here is not a racial problem but social and economic.

Contrary to the popular conception of the mixed breeds as a "hell's broth" of civilization it is found that the hybrids partake of the qualities of each race about half and half, as in the crossing of cattle, and that the intellectual capacity of the Polynesian strain is increased. It is not race itself but the old problem with which sociologists are so familiar, that of maladjustment, disillusion, the slum background, lack of social direction, that has resulted in the petty gangsters of Honolulu.

Situation Summarized.

The mixture of cultural backgrounds is shown in the composition of the five youths accused of the rape of Mrs. Thalia Massie. These were two part Hawaiians, one with some Negro blood, two Japanese and one Chinese. They were all about the same age, 20, and had come through the Americanization school system. The Japanese had a religious background in Buddhism, and Joe Kahahawai, the victim of the famous "honor killing," was given a Catholic wake and an old Hawaiian funeral. They were of that growing class of youth here that has failed to hold to the good standards of their race and have also failed to accept the reality of the Christian God.

The situation is summarized scientifically by Prof. Andrew W. Lind of the University of Hawaii, in an article written before the present situation reached its height in the rape and murder cases, as follows:

"Delinquency and disorganization in Honolulu, as measured by the incidence of juvenile court cases, suicide, family dependency, and arrests for vice, tend to follow the same spatial patterns as in other cities. The presence in Honolulu, however, of a number of large population groups with competing moral standards occasions marked deviations from the normal ecological patterns of disorganization characteristic of American cities.

Suicide High Among Orientals.

"The conservative pressure of the immigrant Ghetto still provides effective resistance to the disintegrating forces of urban life, but it also leads to conflict with the legal standards imposed by the American community. Suicide, for example mounts in the areas inhabited by orientals and declines in the sections occupied by the nonsuicidal Hawaiians and Portuguese. The diminishing strength of the immigrant controls is measured by the rise of certain delinquency types and the participation of the second generation in delinquent behavior with members of other racial groups. One of the most effective melting pots for the races is the crucible for crime."

Dr. Robert E. Park, professor of sociology at the University of Chicago, has been studying these problems here for months and lecturing at the University of Hawaii, which has a student population of 2,900, largely oriental. Dr. Parks, who has made racial surveys on the Pacific coast and Negro relation studies in Chicago, finds much that is encouraging in the Hawaiian laboratory, particularly in the plantation life.

Dr. Romanzo Adams, professor of sociology at the University of Hawaii, has devoted much time to a study of the Japanese problem here. There are 139,631 Japanese in the islands now and their youth, born American citizens and just coming to voting age in large numbers, form the outlook which will determine much of the future of this civilization.

Potential Political Power.

The question now is whether the American school system has brought them to a point where they will be unwilling to do manual labor, and will migrate in large numbers to the mainland, or whether they can be lured gently back to the villages and establish a new labor standard there. Essentially, he finds, there is a growing intensity of feeling for equality of social status, including economic opportunity, and he finds that they are unsurpassed in ability to reëxamine a situation and redirect effort.

Many, including political and service groups, give apprehensive attention to the potential political power of the Japanese, and cite this as the reason why this must remain a territory, or a sort of district government, with all hope of statehood abandoned. A geometric extension of the census figures gives a Japanese population in 1940 of 168,000, but this does not take into account the undetermined movements to the mainland or back to Japan. The Caucasians here, outside of Portauguese, Porto Rican, and Spanish, number 44,895, while the army and navy population is 22,909.

Of the 130,411 voters in the islands, 13,063 are Japanese, but extended to 1940, and using school statistics also, the number increases to 39,129. The Asiatic Hawaiian vote, on this basis, would be 29,490, and the Caucasian 32,846.

Two Divergent Views.

There are two sharply divergent views about this, one alarmist and one optimistic. Dr. Adams thinks that by 1940 the Japanese vote will be not over 37 per cent of the total, and probably about 22 per cent. He considers the birth and death rate rather than the census figures, also the factor or emigration to the United States. Regardless of this the interracial optomists look upon the Japanese as becoming the best of American citizens, anxious to do right, proud of their vote. Others worry about the Filipino problem, or the question of new influx of Porto Ricans.

If a way could be found to get the present population of 368,336 to do its own work without bringing in new laboring masses to be assimilated, the situation might be hopefully solved by 1950, according to scientific observers.

Honolulu, like Quebec, is not to be judged by its central business district. This is run by the white population which controls industry and until recently thought it controlled politics. It is a section of low, English type of business houses, given the touch of the tropics by palms and shrubs in doors and windows. Many clerical and subordinate jobs are held by the part-Hawaiians, who form 50,000 of the population, but there are not nearly enough of these to go around and the others, the young graduates, are wondering what to do with the education that was thrust upon them.

Enormous Mass of Poor.

The older sections of town give vistas of fine old fashioned homes, set in deep acres of gardens and flowers that bloom the year round, homes with the prim touch of New England about them, or the magnificence of the old south. There is a small wealthy class and an enormous mass of the poor, with little between. But the poor are not too poor. There are no beggars on the streets, and most houses in the far flung valleys where the Japanese villages cling to the hills have vegetable gardens and fruit trees. No one need go hungry with bananas at ten cents a bunch and bread fruit and papaia on the trees.

The Chinese live, as usual, in crowded downtown quarters, but there is a section where the more prosperous live, known as the Chinese Hollywood. Waikiki is a place apart, something for tourists. The Chinese and Japanese girls dress just like the shopgirls in the United States and talk about the same glib language. The young Filipino puts on wide flapping trousers, a shirt and coat with deep waistline to offset his inferiority complex. The Portuguese live on a crowded hillside overlooking the ocean. But they live this way because they wish to do so. No color lines are drawn and no districts for races. The town is divided rather into the silk stocking district, the rayon silk district, and the no stocking district.

"Hell's Half Acre" Gone.

The reform movement against the segregated district swept this city about the time it hit the mainland, and the old "Hell's Half Acre" and "Tin Pan Alley" are gone. Prostitution and gambling are not flaunted as in such seaports as Havana, for instance, or Vera Cruz, or Manila. The stranger has to go on the hunt for these things, as in Chicago. There are certain semi-officially recognized places where the army authorities and the board of health work together to protect the soldiers and sailors who roam the streets looking for amusement.

The report from the chief of staff of the army is that the rate of social diseases is low, one-fourth that of any similar department in the States. There are discreet Japanese tea houses, wild private parties at Waikiki, plenty of bootleggers, but on the whole it is a quiet community and one hears sailors complaining that there is "nothing going on." The hula dancers are not to be found, except in the big hotels on certain evenings. The old taxi dance halls have been driven out.

Rather a Prim City.

In fact Honolulu is rather a prim city in many ways, dominated by a strong church element. The real Hawaiians, of whom there are very few left, took their religion seriously and made it a part of all their thought and daily life. Their contact with the world before the arrival of the missionaries in 1820 had brought them little but trinkets, firearms, rum, deceit, and disease which wasted them and reduced them in half a century to less than 60,000. In 1825 the chiefs in annual assembly passed a law forbidding traffic in lewdness. Joseph King Goodrich, in his story of this people, relates:

"In 1826 the United States schooner Dolphin arrived and Lieut. John Percival expressed disgust at the existence of such a puritanical statute. He interested himself with partial success in securing release of prostitutes who had been confined for offenses against this attempt to enforce morality. In the following month some of these American naval seamen committed an attack upon the Rev. H. Bingham, a missionary. The chiefs supported Bingham and repulsed the sailors."

"We of the educated class of Hawaiians were profoundly ashamed of the two assault cases on our white sisters," writes "A Son of Hawaii." "These are the only cases of this type committed since Christianity was introduced here. One of our racial characteristics is that when we commit a crime we do not know how to give excuses to get by. [That is why they cannot understand the theory of guilt against the Massie suspects with their stubborn silence and professions of innocence.] The time has not been long enough for us to cast aside the fear of God and learn the trick of fabricating successful alibis."

Service Men Contemplate Problem.

The presence of thousands of single white men enlisted in the army and navy and given shore leave here complicates Hawaii's social problem so that it never will have a fair chance of being solved. Much of the bitterness between the navy boys of today and the lower class part Hawaiian toughs arises from jealousy over women. The girls seem to prefer the white boy with plenty of money in his pockets, and it is not unusual to see a gay young sailor walking down the street with a dark skinned flapper on his arm, her lacy dress floating down to her ankles, on the way to a dance.

"The trouble with this town is there are too many bootleggers," said one American sailor. "I never drank on the mainland, but I have made a fool of myself here."

"Okolehao and other brands of tipple are more easily procured here than ever before and the prices are generally lower," says the Honolulu Advertiser, in commenting upon the recent transfer here of a new administrator from Chicago.

"Apparently the most that can be hoped, as long as a small force of agents is kept here, is that the most flagrant activities of the booze traffic may be curbed. As for the regular trade, it will go on."

The army and navy is not doing anything noticeable about this, and it closely touches the women problem. One of the aims of the social workers and religious leaders here has been not only to teach the brown men respect for white women, but to teach the white men respect for brown women.

The Young Misfits.

One sees on the streets and riding around in old cars an unusual number of youths of about the same age, the new voter age, coatless, hatless, loafing and laughing. They are the misfits, those who have decided that the world owes them a living. They are not organized and have no definite

2/29/32

WHITE PRESTIGE LOST IN HAWAIIAN CRIMES

Big Influx of Military Men and Tourists Brought Incidents That Destroyed Respect.

FEW INDIVIDUALS BLAMED

"Beach Boys" Encouraged at Times to Lower Opinion of Visiting Women.

N.Y. Times

NVESTIGATIONS ARE BEGUN

Civil Officials Are Charged With Laxity in Dealing With Assault Cases for Years.

This is the second of four dispatches presenting conditions in Honolulu leading up to and resulting from the Fortescue-Massie case, soon to come to trial. The dispatches are written from a completely detached point of view by a correspondent sent to Honolulu for this purpose.

By RUSSELL OWEN.

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HONOLULU, Feb. 28.—Honolulu is the largest military post on American soil and also one of the most favored pleasure resorts. The influx of military service men and tourists was followed by incidents which did not tend to raise the respect of Hawaiians or Orientals toward the haole, or white man.

Dr. Romanzo Adams, University of Hawaii, leading sociologist of the islands, estimates that of the male population of all races between 20 and 25, at least 40 per cent are in the military services.

About 18,000 men of the army and navy are stationed here. Nearly all conduct themselves creditably. But most of them are unattached, and in the age group mentioned they come into direct competition with the island youths for the favors of island girls. The problem, as far as a few are concerned, is obvious.

In this indolent climate also there is a tendency toward pleasure which passes the bounds of good taste and common decency, and a few men in both services, sometimes officers, have done much, Dr. Adams puts it, "to remove the halo from the head of the white man."

Few Glaring Exceptions.

These, of course, are isolated cases, but if there is any place in the world where it behooves an officer in the army or navy to be a gentleman without the persuasion of Congress, it is here, and to the credit of the services it must be said that with few exceptions their conduct has been exemplary.

But those exceptions have been glaring, and there frequently arise differences of opinion between the services and the civilian population based on mutual misunderstanding.

Tourists have yielded without reluctance to the relaxing influence of this semi-tropical climate, and since the cult of sun bathing has spread, clothing has been removed on the beach at Waikiki to an extent that leaves little to the imagination.

Almost every one here agrees that there is nothing vicious about the Hawaiian "beach boy," but they also agree that he has been encouraged at times to lower his opinion of white women. There is little contact between the gangs and the "beach boys," but some of the beach incidents probably have percolated through gossip to the tougher town element, and it has been easy for the native and Oriental gangster to generalize on such a topic.

This general loss of prestige by the haoles coincided with the gradual increase in sex crimes, and the eventual result was foreshadowed long before it occurred. A letter in a newspaper shows the public attitude:

"For several years the conditions in regard to sex crimes have become a festering, spreading disease in Honolulu, and what is being done to curb them? A lot of round-table talk at clubs and elsewhere among the men, a lot of useless panicky discussion among the women, an investigating committee or so among the civic organizations, and in the end, what? Recommendations, mutterings, long-suffering silence, until the next outrage occurs, and in the meantime the same crooked dealings in the police department, the same avaricious advisers who would do anything for money; the same proud boasting on the part of defendants that a jury can be so selected that they will never be convicted, and what becomes of decency, justice and civic pride in Honolulu?"

Many Attacks by Gangs.

Most of the attacks on women were by gangs, a sort of crime much more rare on the mainland. As a result the League of Women Voters tried to get Chief of Police August Vollmer, Berkeley, Cal., to come here some years ago and investigate the entire gang and police situation, and raised the money to bring him, but for some reason their efforts were sidetracked.

Things drifted along until in the fall of 1928 there was a crime which startled the entire community, and it was against a boy. A Japanese, Myles Fukunaga, kidnapped the young son of a trust company official and strangled him. Fukunaga demanded ransom of $5,000 and the father paid the money. The numbers of the bills had been taken by the bank.

So shocking was the crime that parents did not permit their children out of sight, even to go to school, and bought pistols to protect their homes. The entire stock of firearms in Honolulu was cleared out in a few days.

The police again failed to function and the Chamber of Commerce and Governor Judd, then a Colonel in the National Guard, persuaded them to permit Gordon Ross, recently appointed High Sheriff, to take charge of the investigation.

But it was not until the newspapers forced the authorities to make public the numbers of the bills that Fukunaga was caught. There was a mob on the murderer's heels when he was taken to the police station, and if it could have done so it would have torn him to pieces. Later he was hanged.

The case centred attention upon the police, but nothing was done to improve the situation. Sex crimes continued to increase and reached their climax in 1929, when there was a demand that the whipping-post be established to deal with men who attacked girls. The proposal aroused excitement and, although it was passed by the Legislature, it was vetoed by Governor Wallace Farrington on the ground that it did not truly represent public opinion.

The first recorded attack on a white woman was in March, 1931, when a governess was assaulted within 100 yards of her home in the exclusive Diamond Head district. The case has never been solved and the police were accused of mishandling it. The girl could only partly describe her assailant. Then came the recent Ala Moana case, when Mrs. Thomas Massie, wife of a Lieutenant in the navy, was attacked on a lonely road after she had left an inn where she and her husband had been members of a party.

Although the identity of Mrs. Massie was not known to the public until the murder which followed, there was a tremendous uproar over her assault, not only because of its brutality, but because the navy took vigorous action.

This case was also unusual because the five men charged with the crime were caught only a few hours afterward. They were Joseph Kahahawai and Benny Ahakuelo, Hawaiians; Horace Ida and David Takai, Japanese, and Henry Chang, Chinese. Their car came into collision with another car only a short time after the assault on Mrs. Massie and the number of the car led to their arrest.

Two of them, Kahahawai and Chang, were at once taken before Mrs. Massie. She said she identified them. Three of them had criminal records. Kahahawai had pleaded guilty to assault in another case and had served thirty days. Chang and Ahakuelo had been indicted with three others for rape, and were permitted to plead guilty to assault with intent to ravish.

Chang was released on parole at the end of his minimum sentence and Ahakuelo, an athlete, according to Admiral Stirling's report, "was, at the instigation of persons connected with the local Amateur Athletic Union, granted a full discharge by the Territorial Governor on Feb. 25, 1931, in order that he might represent the Territory in the national amateur boxing championship tournament held this year at Madison Square Garden, New York City. He did in fact so represent the territory."

Governor Judd has denied that he released Ahakuelo for this reason and stated that he acted only on the recommendation of the parole board.

Investigation Is Begun.

The navy officials were so stirred by the attack on Mrs. Massie that shore leave of men in the fleet here for manoeuvres was canceled, although later the men of one ship were permitted ashore. Rear Admiral Pettingill wrote in a letter which was made public that Honolulu was unsafe for the wives of naval officers. This action aroused turmoil in Hawaii and Congress, and after the Kahahawai murder Seth Richardson, of the Attorney General's office in Washington, was sent to Hawaii, where he is now making an investigation of conditions, chiefly with a view to determining whether the Territorial government is functioning properly or should be changed.

When the two men charged with attacking Mrs. Massie were tried there was a disagreement among the jury, and although they were kept at their deliberations for four days they were finally discharged without reaching a decision. There was not a single pure Nordic on the jury, but curiously they divided without regard to race.

The first ballot is said to have been six to six. The jurors were split fairly evenly, without regard to race. Those said to have been for conviction on the first ballot were a man three-quarters white and one-quarter Hawaiian, another three-quarters Hawaiian and one-quarter white, another three-quarters white and one-quarter Hawaiian, another a Japanese, another three-quarters white and one-quarter Hawaiian and a Chinese.

Those for acquittal on this ballot are said to have been: One who was three-quarters white and one-quarter Hawaiian, another one-eighth white and seven-eighths Hawaiian, another Japanese, another three-quarters Portuguese and one-quarter Hawaiian, another Portuguese and a Chinese.

The only time an eight to four ballot was taken it is said to have been for acquittal, and the final vote was seven to five for acquittal. At least 100 ballots were taken.

The jury had apparently been somewhat influenced by discord in the police department which resulted in awkward fumbling of evidence. One of the things upon which the prosecution depended to convict the five men was the tire tracks at the point where Mrs. Massie says her assailants dragged her from the car and committed the assault.

Public Doubts Guilt of All.

A day or two before the trial the prosecutor, who had had his case checked by a number of well-known lawyers, learned that the Chief of Detectives, John McIntosh, had taken the car, which belonged to Ida, and had driven it out to the scene of the assault, so mixing the tracks that they became impossible of evidence. That was a single instance of the bungling which marred the entire building up of the police case against the men.

When these things became known there began to be evident among some responsible citizens of Hawaii, both native and white, a doubt—whether justified or not—whether all the men charged with the crime were guilty, or whether the gang had split and some other men had become mixed up with those Mrs. Massie said she was most positive in identifying.

At least the situation became such that men of impartial mind have said that possibly one-quarter of the white people of Honolulu have some doubt whether all the men charged with the crime are guilty, and whether the evidence against them was sufficient. It must be remembered, also, that until recent changes in the law, corroboration of the statement of the woman involved was necessary to conviction.

criminal objective, but drift into petty thievery, working in small groups, which cut through the racial lines. This shows the sociologist that it is the maladjusted of each group which seek each other out. The racial composition of the neighborhood gangs is markedly mixed in character. Crime itself is a melting pot for the races.

While these many races have lived peacefully together for many years, slowly washing out cultural conflicts and assimilating at least something of the economic and social standards of the "American dream," there is among the tougher element, a group called the "haole haters," and in this are many whites and part whites, men who have made a failure of life. There has been for months a distinct antagonism against the navy, but it does not appear to be visited upon the sailors so much as the officers. These no longer wear their uniforms in town and think it wise to disguise the fact that they are from Pearl Harbor.

Question of Justice.

This has extended recently to a tension between the whites and the browns over the question of "justice" in the murder and rape cases. There has been so much talk of this Kahahawai gang being railroaded by the navy and a haole section of the police department, that it is beginning to have effect. There has never been anything approaching a riot or a real demonstration, but men who have lived here many years and worked with these friendly brown brothers do not like the whisperings that they detect in the averted face and the unfriendly glances. It would be good, they think, to have the scales of justice tipped evenly, so that all might see and take warning. It may be only temporary, or a veneer may be slipping off.

Lynchings-1932

Rape by Whites.

3821

Honolulu, Hawaii.

BLAMES HAWAIIAN POLITICS.

N. Y. Times

Former Honolulu Resident Says Corrupt Police Machine Balks at Arresting Hoodlums.

1-12-

To the Editor of The New York Times:

The background of the present disturbance in Hawaii is political, not racial. A purely local event, which is not less horrifying, of course, because of that, has apparently stirred a nation. It seems to me the true picture of the matter is deserving of some report.

Times

Honolulu was my home for twelve years. I grew up in its schools, was a member of the editorial staffs of both English newspapers and have returned four times within the last five years. I was last there in April of 1931, and I feel that I am in a better position to discuss the background of the current situation there than any of the correspondents or press association representatives now in Honolulu, all of whom I know personally. 1-12-32

As I have said, the background is to a large extent political. It is necessary to go briefly into this. In the last decade a political revolution took place in Honolulu. Up to that time the City and County Governments had been dominated almost invariably by the Democrats and the Territorial Government by the Republicans. At the end of the last decade the shift became complete. The Republicans elected the Mayor and Board of Supervisors and the Sheriff, who is head of the Police Department. New York

Sheriff Pat Gleason was one of the old "St. Louis Alumni" [illegible] a political ring which had been influential in the Democratic administration. In two terms—he was first appointed in 1928 to fill a vacancy following the impeachment of the then Sheriff—Gleason has managed to cement a new political ring, based on the Police Department. It represents the last political autonomy of the Hawaiian group.

Gleason, in order to consolidate his insurgent police machine, sought the favor of and gave protection to the elements in the city which are most likely to become lawless. The police force was shot through with incompetents who were retained for their political strength. Paired with Gleason as head of the insurgents was City Attorney Jimmy Gilliland, a Portuguese-American, who also drew support from the "gangs" of Honolulu. These "gangs" are not highly organized and do not swoop out from "Hell's Half Acre," wherever that may be, to prey upon defenseless women. They are simply groups tied with personal connections to the protective system of the Police Department.

Attacks on women, as well as on white soldiers and sailors, became more frequent. Sheriff Gleason found himself unable to exert authority because the Civil Service Commission, vested with the sole power to discharge members of the force, was part of the police machine and refused to sustain his charges.

Among the more striking examples of this sort was the case of an imbecile Hawaiian girl who had escaped from the Girls' Reformatory at Waimanalo. The police officer who was returning her assaulted her, it was charged, but charges against him were not sustained.

However, this incident—infinitely more dastardly from a sentimental viewpoint than the attack on Mrs. Massie—failed to muster the attention of the Territorial or National Government, and it was not heralded by the newspapers throughout the land. It was only a half-wit Hawaiian girl that was involved.

But the attack on Mrs. Massie aroused the navy to action in a most unprecedented manner. As a matter of fact, members of the military and naval service seldom come to regard the civilian population of Hawaii with anything but tolerant contempt, due to the feeling of race prejudice against the Hawaiians. The situation to them is comparable to that in the Southern States of the Union.

This attitude has naturally fostered resentment among the Hawaiians, who have the immediate memory of a monarchial ancestry that lived up to the end of the last century, when the machinery of imperial aggression in the hands of Americans converted their kingdom into a Territory of the United States. This racial pride has resulted in spasmodic and wholly individual outbursts, but never in serious disorders.

The notion that the Hawaiians as a race would rise to the defense of a gang of rapers is so foolish that it seems incredible that it should have been given the attention it has.

The contest is between the "police machine," which declines to interfere with or arrest many of the hoodlums of the city, and the regular elements of the Republican party, which is seeking to weed out this new menace to their authority. The regular elements, being interested chiefly in the sort of domination of the affairs of the Territory they enjoyed in its early days, and being constitutionally opposed to such local autonomy as would result from Statehood in Hawaii, have seized this opportunity to cement their position.

The United States military or naval service, in permitting either its officers or their wives to live in Honolulu instead of at the naval or military bases, has, it would seem, placed them under the protection of the city administration. That the city administration lacks effectiveness cannot be disputed; but so does New York City. The situation is in no sense different in Honolulu.

THEON WRIGHT.

New York, Jan. 11, 1932.

MASSIE TO FACE TRIAL FOR LIFE IN HAWAII COURT

Chicago Tribune

1-11-32

Waives Navy Rights; Aids Seamen.

BY CLIFFORD GESSLER.

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

(Pictures on back page.)

HONOLULU, Jan. 10.—Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, held with his mother-in-law, Mrs. Granville Fortescue, and two others on the old warship Alton in connection with the kidnaping and slaying of Joseph Kahahawai, alleged Hawaiian rapist, today announced that he will waive a naval court martial trial. It is expected he will be turned over to the civil authorities at once.

Prosecutor Griffith Wight said he will seek an indictment on charges of first degree murder against the naval officer and the other three early next week. Conviction under this charge carries the death penalty; no other penalty is allowed, under the law.

Defense Attorney's Statement.

Montgomery Winn, attorney for Lieut. Massie and Mrs. Fortescue, issued the following statement this afternoon after a conference with the naval officer aboard the U. S. S. Alton, formerly the U. S. S. Chicago:

"I was unable to see Mrs. Fortescue today except for a few minutes due to her nervous condition. I saw Lieut. Massie who said he has decided to waive any right he may have for trial by the navy or in the federal courts. He said he was willing to be tried by a jury of ciltizens of Honolulu in the territorial courts and in which the rape case was originally tried. Massie is notifying naval authorities not to request a change of venue.

"Several prominent citizens have phoned me, being unable to reach the Alton, asking me to convey their sympathies to Mrs. Fortescue and Lieut. Massie. I have been retained by Massie to represent E. J. Lord and Al Jones, the two enlisted men of the navy also charged with the murder of the Hawaiian, assuming that the territory succeeds in having Jones indicted.

Demands Speedy Trial.

"I hope to have Jones released on the same terms as those granted the other three defendants. We shall insist on a speedy trial, which right is assured by the constitution of the United States to every citizen accused of crime."

Mr. Winn concluded by saying that the defense will not seek a change of venue from the criminal division of the territorial courts to the Circuit court on one of the other islands.

Lieut. Massie, Mrs. Fortescue, Lord and Al Jones are being held by naval authorities under a "gentleman's agreement." It is not known whether the sailors will submit to a civil trial, but it is assumed they too will ask to be arraigned in the territorial court. Mrs. Fontescue will face civil action.

The four are charged with the abduction and murder of the Hawaiian, one of five men accused of raping Mrs. Thalia Massie, attractive 20 year old wife of the lieutenant, on Sept. 12.

Mrs. Fortescue Collapses.

Naval officials today stated that Mrs. Fortescue had collapsed and was confined to her bed aboard the ship which will be the temporary quarters of the defendants until the trial comes to an end.

"Her condition is in no way critical," her physician said. "She is highly excited and incoherent. She may not be able to attend the trial when it opens."

Honolulu residents and friends have sent flowers to her. She has also received numerous radio messages of sympathy.

The Alton lies high and dry on a mudflat in Pearl harbor and is connected with the mainland by a pier 75 feet long. Marines are guarding the pier day and night and Rear Admiral Yates Stirling Jr., commandant of the naval base, has ordered to allow no one aboard the ship except with a pass signed by himself.

Slain Man Buried.

Kahahawai, the slain man, was buried today. Escorted by a heavy police guard, the four surviving defendants in the rape case, wept as they viewed his body in a mortuary chapel. A Hawaiian wreath, a tribute from the barefoot football team of which he was a star player, was placed about his neck. After the services, the defendants, who are awaiting a new trial, were led back to the police station as a safety measure.

Public announcement that the death penalty would be asked against Lieut. Massie, his mother-in-law, and the two sailors has increased the bitter feeling between the navy personnel and certain elements in Honolulu From the pulpits many pastors today delivered sermons concerning the killing and the recent attacks upon women.

Yesterday's statement by Admiral William V. Pratt, chief of naval operations in Washington, in which he said "American men will not stand for the violation of their women under any circumstances," aroused several pastors.

The Rev. Horace Leavitt, pastor of the Central Union church, the largest in Honolulu, referred to Admiral Pratt in his serman today as "a high official who is reported to have justified this resort to lynch law."

Admiral Pratt Attacked.

"He thereby puts himself and the naval force here above the law," the pastor said. "This is anarchy. He is utterly false to the censtitution which he has sworn to uphold."

The Rev. Galen Weaver, pastor of the Church of the Crossroads, made his comment upon a newspaper report quoting Admiral Pratt as saying American men would not stand for the violation of their women under any circumstances and that "for this crime they have taken the matter into their own hands repeatedly when they have felt that the law has failed to do justice."

"Of all the public statements made in the relation to the present situation this is the most devilish pronouncement to come out of the mouth of an intelligent man," the Rev. Weaver said, concluding his sermon by expressing the hope that "President Hoover would use every process of the law to deprive the admiral of his command."

SENATE ORDERS INVESTIGATION OF HAWAII CRIME

Chicago Tribune

Wants Island Safe for White Women.

1-12-32

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

Washington, D. C., Jan. 11.—[Special.]—A sweeping investigation of the enforcement and administration of criminal laws in Hawaii with special reference to the recent killing of a native following an assault on the wife of a naval officer, was begun today by Attorney General William D. Mitchell.

WM. D. MITCHELL.
[U. & U. Photo.]

The attorney general acted on the authority of a senate resolution calling for an exhaustive investigation of recent Hawaiian crimes and a report indicating whether a change in the organic law for the territory would be necessary to make the island safe for white women. Chairman Hiram Bingham [Rep., Conn.] of the senate territories committee introduced the resolution and it was passed without opposition and without debate.

Congress Shows Concern.

The prompt passage of the resolution of inquiry indicated the grave concern manifested in congress over the tense conditions in Hawaii, caused by the killing of Joseph Kahahawai, a native, and the arrest, as the slayers, of Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, U. S. N.; Mrs. Granville Fortescue, mother-in-law of Massie and wife of a prominent soldier and author, and two seamen. Kahahawai was alleged to have raped Mrs. Massie.

Immediately following the passage of the Bingham resolution, Senator Kenneth McKellar [Dem., Tenn.] offered another resolution calling for a senatorial investigation of the whole Hawaiian situation. Simultaneously, the house naval committee called upon the navy department for all their records on their dispute with the civil authorities over island disorders which culminated in the shooting.

Early this afternoon all records held by the navy department, as well as such reports as have been received by the department of the interior which has charge of the island government, were turned over to Attorney General Mitchell.

Navy Issued Warning.

The navy department files carried records showing that the department had called attention to serious conditions of lax law enforcement in Honolulu as early as Dec. 12. They also declared that Admiral William V. Pratt, chief of naval operations, stated on several occasions that unless the territory was cleaned up further trouble was likely to occur, as American men would not stand for the rape of their women.

While navy department officials continued to emphasize the gravity of the situation in Hawaii, calling attention to the fact that it had been necesary to cancel arrangements for having the fleet stop there for several days in February, following a joint army and navy problem, interior department officials remained calm.

Secretary of the Interior Wilbur announced late in the day he had received cabled assurances from Gov. Judd that conditions there had been exaggerated. Secretary Wilbur expressed complete confidence in Gov. Judd's ability to handle the whole situation. Whether President Hoover will take a hand in the matter was not clear, late tonight.

The secretary expressed deep regret over the incident.

Navy Wants Venue Change.

In the meantime sentiment in the navy, crystallized against any plan for turning Lieut. Massie over to local authorities for trial. Late today orders were issued to Rear Admiral Stirling, advising him not to turn the naval officer over to the city without first obtaining consent from Washington. Admiral Pratt ventured the hope that a change of venue could be obtained which would permit the trial of the naval officer in California.

"I would like to see that done, if it were possible to do so," Admiral Pratt said. "It would be better for all concerned. To hold the trial in Honolulu now would be to keep the situation there continuously stirred up. The longer it is stirred up the more difficult it will be to settle."

Honolulu Displeased.

HONOLULU, Jan. 11.—(AP)—Civilian reaction to the news that the United States senate had ordered the attorney general to investigate Honolulu's crime crisis and the character and efficiency of all territorial officials brought some critical comment today.

The opinions expressed by leaders follow:

Mayor George Wright: "Things are in good shape, and for the federal government to start a probe in Hawaii is sheer nonsense. This city is law abiding—as a matter of fact, more so than any other city in the United States, in my opinion.

"Friday's lynching was the first of its kind in Hawaii, something so new and startling that it has temporarily upset the people. It is regrettable that people had to take the law in their own hands. They had no right to do so. It is regrettable when the navy personnel, who are pledged to keep law and order, are implicated in this affair. It is a poor state of affairs when civil authorities have to preserve law and order among members of the service."

Criticizes Police System.

Mayor Wright said he believed the killing of Joseph Kahahawai was due to lack of confidence by the people in the police department which he said was brought to a head when several policemen testified for the defense in the case of Kahahawai and four others charged with attacking the wife of Lieut. Thomas H. Massie. The jury in the attack case disagreed.

Wright said the police system was obsolete and outgrown by the city's present size and that there was "too much politics" in the department.

Mrs. Henry F. Damon, president of the League of Women Voters: "I feel we are facing a serious situation here. It will take the best efforts to bring about what we know is right out of the situation."

Other Opinions Given Out.

The Rev. Markham Talmadge, president of the interchurch federation: "This action would be perfectly justifiable if the senate did the same thing with New York, Chicago, and other places where conditions are constantly worse than in Hawaii."

Wilfred C. Tsukiyama, president of the Japanese Civic association: "I don't think the action is necessary. Things seem to be back to normalcy. Federal authorities seem to think we are having riots and all kinds of disturbances here. For the good of the nation and the territory I think the local authorities should urge the senate to desist."

Mrs. Harry A. Kluegel, president of the Citizens' Organization for Good Government: "The senate is privileged to conduct an investigation if it wants to. I do not know if conditions warrant an investigation. I do not possess all the facts."

JAIL FOURTH IN HAWAII KIDNAP AND DEATH PLOT

Second Sailor Held as Massie's Aid.

Chicago Tribune

BY CLIFFORD GESSLER.

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

HONOLULU, Jan. 9.—A fourth person was formally charged with first degree murder by Honolulu authorities today in connection with the kidnaping and shooting of Joseph Kahahawai, a Hawiian. The latest defendant is Al Jones, an enlisted man in the navy. He will probably be turned over to the naval authorities.

Jones was arrested yesterday. Police charge that he stood guard in front of the residence of Lieut. H. Massie while Kahahawai was being killed. He was also found to possess the magazine of an automatic pistol with one cartridge missing and a fake warrant believed to have been used in luring Kahahawai from the federal building to the death car.

Prisoners Aboard Warship.

The three other prisoners in the slaying—Mrs. Granville Fortescue, New York and Washington society leader, her son-in-law, Lieut. Massie, and E. J. Lord, an enlisted man—are prisoners aboard the old warship Alton. They are being held by the navy under a "gentleman's agreement." All are charged with the abduction and murder of the Hawaiian who was one of five men accused of raping the naval lieutenant's attractive young wife, Thalia, on Sept. 12.

The vengeance wreaked on the Hawaiian by the husband and mother of his victim, is described by the city attorney in Honolulu as having been done "for the honor of the navy."

Says Admiral Erred.

County Attorney Gilliland in commenting on Admiral Pratt's statement said:

"There is not the first time an admiral has been all wet. The admiral based his statement upon the situation from erroneous information. My department is ready to contradict it at any time."

Reinforced patrols of territorial police guarded the streets of Honolulu today. Many women called at police headquarters asking protection for their homes. There were also requests from men for neighborhood patrols.

Despite the bitter racial feeling, Prosecutor Wight minimized the possibility of riots. He said that Lieut. Massie's decision to go to trial in the territorial courts has helped to relieve the tension.

The Honolulu Case

1/11/32

Secretary of the navy makes public the report of Rear Admiral Stirling on the rape of the wife of Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, who, with his mother-in-law and two seamen, is now accused of the kidnaping and murder of one of Mrs. Massie's assailants. Story on page 6.

Chicago

Shore leave to visit Honolulu will be denied all sailors [illegible] the fleet's maneuvers off Hawaii in February, Admiral Pratt, chief of naval operations, announced in Washington. Story on page 7.

Maj. Granville R. Fortesque, who is ill of pneumonia in New York, announces he will go to Hawaii as soon as possible to aid his wife. Story on page 7.

BULLETIN.

[Copyright: 1932: By United Press.]

HONOLULU, T. H., Jan. 9.—Mrs. Grace Hubbard Fortescue, New York and Washington society leader under arrest aboard the old warship Alton on charges of participating in the murder of Joe Kahahawai, young Hawaiian who allegedly attacked her daughter, collapsed tonight.

Chicago Defender

1-16-32

YOU saw about the trouble in Hawaii; also what the Senate did. This race fever is catching. The Senate [illegible] to make Hawaii safe [illegible] "white women." Others, evidently, will have to get along the best they can.

Read all you can about Hawaii. If you had the time, reading of the report of Sterling Yates, big naval man in Honolulu, would help you to understand a thing or two. Lend your sympathy to the Massie woman, but linger over the circumstances.

Certain streets in New York, Chicago, Atlanta, Houston, even in Boston, ladies with good intentions don't take "walks" on, not even in the daytime, let alone at night.

Read now from Admiral Yates' report:

"On the evening of Sept. 12, 1931, the wife of a lieutenant (junior grade) in the navy, in company with her husband and two other service couples, went to the Ala Wai inn, a rather popular cafe on Kalakaua Ave., which is the main thoroughfare of the Waikiki district in the city of Honolulu.

"At 11:30 p. m., becoming bored and tired of the party, the young wife (Mrs. Massie), who was not 20 years old, decided to take a walk."

Now, can you beat that? A high-toned lady got tired of her husband, of a party of swells and decided to take a walk, out in the dark, by herself, without letting her husband know which way she would go, or what time she would be back.

* * *

Victor Houston, Hawaiian delegate in Congress, made a point. He said: "I wonder why Mrs. Massie took her walk through a [illegible]orhood she knew was infest[illegible] bootleggers, the easy men and [illegible]gsters?"

The committee might pause on that point. Ladies looking for a thrill often get a shock. You know how headstrong they are. Suppose Mrs. Massie had said to her husband: "Why, dear, your party is bum, but I'll stick with you"? Suppose she had said that?

Things equal to the same thing are equal to each other, is a rule in one of the mathematics books, which one this writer doesn't know. Over here in the U. S. A. it is **"Negro."** In Hawaii it is **"mixed blood."** Did you not notice that?

Nonwhite ladies have but one point to note, that is, the world must be made safe for white women. White men mean that, no matter what they tell **YOU.**

Lynchings-1932
6
Rape by Whites

Honolulu, Hawaii.

3822

Kahahawai's Crime

Amsterdam News

THE SENATE Committee on Territories, the Army, Navy and Interior Departments and the Attorney-General, all of the United States, are investigating the Hawaiian situation leading up to the foul murder of Joseph Kahahawai. Even President Hoover is reported taking an active interest in the investigating of the "reported breakdown in Hawaiian law and enforcement." Not one of these governmental agencies is interested in the diabolical crime which has been committed and which needs no investigation. Instead of concentrating their efforts on bringing about the conviction of the slayers, they have entered into what amounts to a conspiracy to defeat justice and free them. 1-20-32

LET US SUPPOSE, for the sake of argument, that Kahahawai was guilty of the crime charged against him. Was he not tried in an American court of law, set up and presided over by Americans? And did not the jury which heard the case disagree? Guilty or innocent, he was not convicted; and, what is more, we have it from Governor Lawrence M. Judd of the territory that the evidence in the Massie assault case did not warrant conviction under the law, because there was no corroborating testimony or evidence Except in the South and Southwest, where the penalty for rape is death by lynch law, Hawaii, in requiring corroboration in such cases, is no different than most of the states of the United States and other so-called civilized countries.

New York, N.Y.

NOT ONLY have governmental officials, from President Hoover down, all of whom are sworn to uphold the law, and governmental agencies evidenced a desire to see a miscarriage of justice in the Kahahawai slaying, they have been joined by a portion of the daily press. The New York Evening Journal, in an editorial last week, recommended the removal of civil authorities, the declaration of martial law, the hanging of the perpetrators of outrages on American (white, of course) women, and the extending of a full and free pardon to each of Kahahawai's slayers. Even the Daily News, ordinarily the most decent of the tabloid press, opines that the Kahahawai slaying "is one of the infrequent cases where application of the unwritten law was entirely permissible." In the same issue in which the editorial appeared, the News published a chart showing that Americans in Hawaii commit more crimes than the Hawaiians themselves and published information showing that crime in Hawaii was unknown until the islands came under American rule.

AMERICAN LAW professes to presume an accused person innocent until his guilt is established beyond doubt. Kahahawai had not been adjudged guilty up to the time of his death. His color is the only major crime thus far proven against him. If he had been white and had actually committed the crime he was accused of committing there would be no investigation, no talk of law enforcement in Hawaii and no threat of landing marines. If slain under identical circumstances, except for the difference in race and color, there would not be this conspiracy to honorably acquit his murderers. If he had been white and his victim a native Hawaiian woman, nothing whatever would have been heard of the case. Such is the state of American civilization in the year of our Lord 1932.

LAXITY IN HONOLULU IS LAID TO CITIZENS

Mrs. Kleugel, Citizens' Committee Head, Urges Drastic and Immediate Reform.

N.Y. Times

POLITICIANS ARE ASSAILED

1-14-32

She Asserts They Are Trying to Hush Facts—Says New Frame of Mind as to Sex Crimes Is Needed.

By MRS. HARRY KLEUGEL.
President Honolulu Citizens' Organization for Good Government.

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HONOLULU, Jan. 13.—From the woman's viewpoint, conditions in Honolulu, with womanhood ravished reveal that Christian principles have been outraged. American government practices have been debased to the end that Honolulu is now being advertised to the world as a disorderly community. Huddling and shushing continue because of politics, and great pressure was brought to bear from local political circles to prevent the holding of a mass meeting whose advertised purpose was to unite the community efforts for good government and perfect plans for a citizens' organization.

Conditions, however, proved that Honolulu was a safe place for holding such a meeting and for public discussion regarding the present situation and the ability of citizens in general to assume responsibility of planning for good government.

The result was a mass meeting Tuesday night in which 1,000 persons interested in good government and a solution of the present difficulties took part. The causes for the peculiar dilemma in which Honolulu finds itself today lie in the apathy of its citizens, irresponsibility toward assuming citizen's obligations, selfishness turned in upon itself, and leaders who do not lead, but huddle and shush.

"The Government We Deserve."

At the moment one finds here the kind of government we deserve. But a new day dawns, new leaders are appearing—leaders not bought with money, power or position, and basing their activities on carefully organized facts and an unwavering adherence to basic principles; leaders who will not compromise truth for expediency, and men and women, not cowards, working together for the good of Honolulu.

What should be done to protect women here? Every governmental effort must be made to get the Ala Moana criminals and all others and convict them, thereby restoring confidence in orderly process of law for which all citizens must stand, bearing in mind that women have sacrificed themselves in a tragic manner for the good of the community.

Debasing governmental practices for political manipulation and material gain must be removed. This must be followed by abolition of a boasted feudal system transplanted to twentieth century American soil with many attendant practices and attitudes toward womanhood openly flaunted under the American flag.

As for the position of woman here—the crying need is to raise the status of women in Honolulu, now in a deplorable condition. Women should be on an equal basis with men, as in the progressive mainland States. This entails a recognition of woman's position in the twentieth century world by government departments, and in professional, business, political and social life as well.

There must be a recognition by all citizens of Honolulu of the civilized attitude toward rape and sexual offenses instead of the present attitude which has long been considered uncivilized. The same protection should be given all women in Honolulu which is now urged by the Navy Department and Admiral Pratt for Navy women.

If the Senate Committee comes to Honolulu to investigate, such an investigation should be all inclusive. It should investigate the background which precipitated the present situation—the community itself, business, politics, government, social life, and the personnel and loyalty of American civil officials interpreting and administering the principles of American government.

This should be followed by removal from political bosses and bar associations of autocratic control by their approval or disapproval of Federal and territorial appointments. The Governor of the territory should be appointed by the Federal Government, absolutely free from local political and economic dominance, thus eliminating entanglements and insuring freedom from such thwarting entanglements.

The Governor should serve all the people, and the same should hold true for judges. Such officials should be those whom the citizens can trust as Americans, upholding all principles and traditions of the United States Constitution, and with whom they can cooperate in a fearless and God-fearing performance of their duty.

Reform of Parties Advocated.

Political parties in Honolulu should be reformed, both as to practice and personnel. Political and economic bosses should be eliminated as dictators, both here and in Congress. There should be a restatement for Honolulu of American principles of justice and legal procedure, particularly as regards prosecution. There should be swift prosecution resulting in certain conviction for criminal offenders. There should be the death sentence for rape, a flogging law for sexual offenders, and recognition that the present statutes show that sex offenses against minors is criminal and must be enforced.

There should be a women's bureau in the police department, including policewomen, and a clean-up by authorities of local vice conditions. An aroused public opinion demands a special session of the territorial Legislature to enact a law for an appointive chief of police with modern methods and properly trained personnel. There should be a thorough housecleaning in Honolulu by citizens as well as a reorganization of the organic act, and Hawaii's territorial constitution to meet modern conditions, particularly as to jury service for women.

Future efforts should encompass greater attention by all officials and citizens toward welfare and social programs now almost entirely given to taxation alone. The present social and recreational programs are utterly inadequate.

We are faced with the necessity of a transfer of the dominant business interests from tourists' attractions to the human problems of Hawaii, making life here attractive and worth while for all citizens.

If these reconstructions are impossible in this territory, publicly reaffirmed and legislated in Hawaii as an integral part of the United States, then let the United States admit defeat in its ability to govern such a territory as Hawaii as now organized under its mandate, and either create some other form to fit the conditions or modify the organic act.

LAWYERS AFRAID IN HONOLULU

2-6-32

N.Y. American

HONOLULU, H.I.—Fearing America on the one hand and native vengeance on the other, no prominent lawyer of the Hawaiian Islands can be persuaded to prosecute the retrial of four men charged with assaulting Mrs. Thomas G. Massie, wife of a navy lieutenant, or the case against Lieut. Massie, Mrs. Granville Fortescue, mother of Mrs. Massie, and two enlisted men, growing out of the slaying of Joseph Kahahawai, one of those charged with the attack.

City Attorney James F. Gilliland said that Washington expects a conviction of the four accused attackers, but that as yet the community has been unable to induce any strong member of the bar association to prosecute. The original jury disagreed.

While the authorities at Washington are trying to force conviction in the case of the accused attackers, there will be opportunity for colored to save the accused whites from prosecution on murder charges in the native courts.

HONOLULU COLD TO RAPE TRIAL; NAVY IS ANGRY

Chicago Tribune

Chances to Convict Youths Fade.

2-7-32

BY PHILIP KINSLEY.
[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

HONOLULU, Feb. 6.—While the actual trial of Mrs. Granville Fortescue; her son-in-law, Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, U. S. N., and two navy enlisted men for the murder of Joe Kahahawai, a Hawaiian, on Jan. 8, is expected to begin the latter part of this month, no move has been made toward the retrial of the four remaining defendants accused of raping 20 year old Mrs. Thalia Massie, the lieutenant's wife, last September.

On the contrary, an underground campaign is going on mitigating the success of new prosecution of this case. It is even whispered that the evidence is so weak that Mrs. Massie will leave the island and will refuse to take the stand again as complaining witness against a Hawaiian, Chinese, and two Japanese.

Unable to Get Confession.

It is extremely difficult to get an unprejudiced jury, as the Hawaiian public has been led to believe that the accused are the wrong boys, and private investigators are apparently unable to obtain new evidence against them. The operatives have had "plants" with the boys and have tried every means to get a confession

Mrs. Massie now is living with friends at Pearl Harbor naval station near her mother, who has complete liberty of the yard now. Bridge and golf is said to be her chief relaxation. Mrs. Massie is said to be still somewhat dazed as a result of her experience in the dark street of the Ala Moana district, where she was attacked. Mrs. Fortescue is living in the captain's quarters aboard the base ship Alton.

Public attitude toward both trials is calm and might be called apathetic. A delay, particularly in the retrial of the Ala Moana rape case, seems only a certainty. This same attitude was marked before the first trial, when citizens failed to back strong prosecution and the best criminal lawyers refused to take the case. They left it to Assistant County Attorney Griffith Wight, a man of four years' experience, who is now being blamed and forced to take the burden of the consequences of the mistrial.

No Public Awakening.

There is no public awakening here to the seriousness of this case, and there was a general laxity of law enforcement in sex offenses until the navy took public action, refused shore leave in Honolulu, and its officers charged their women were not safe.

The debate is now being heard on every side as to whether the navy exaggerated. Navy men still insist that the fears of women are justified, but citizens are divided and point out that there has been no major crime here since early January, when two convicts escaped from Oahu prison and one raped a woman. Now both have been captured and returned to their cells. They merely walked out, it appears, on New Year's eve to get a supply of "oke" at a native drinking resort for fellow prisoners and decided not to come back.

(The Associated Press dispatches last night told of two attempted attacks on a Chinese girl and a Hawaiian woman in Honolulu. Two men were arrested.)

Army officers are keeping quiet about the general situation, but feel the same as the navy men. They are unwilling to mix in this mess and think the danger to women is somewhat exaggerated, but that the situation has been bad in sex affairs for a long time and that there is no hope of real improvement under present island politics. They see the necessity of Washington taking a strong hand here, lessening the number of elective offices.

Politics Are Blamed.

What particularly aggravated navy men regarding the Ala Moana rape case was the slowness of prosecution, a discussion of the character of Mrs. Massie, stories involving naval officers, weakness of the prosecution and the jury situation. Even the prosecutor knew there was no chance of conviction in the case, the naval men insist. They also add that defendants had at least two strong friends on the jury and that the prosecutor could not remove them by challenge.

This law has been changed for the next trial. Hawaiians on the jury are said to have voted for conviction all the way through. The trouble is not fundamentally racial, so far as these cases are concerned, but political.

Slowly through the years the white business element has left politics to a new group, part Hawaiians and part orientals, whose chief ambition is to get on the public pay roll and who compromise anything, particularly a small matter like a sex crime, to this end. An old law made it possible to try Hawaiians by an all Hawaiian jury, but under an organic act this was changed and now cases cannot be tried with a jury of one race.

All White Jury Illegal.

It is illegal to have an all white jury for murder trials. Anxiety over the next panel enters into the delay. At the beginning of this particular situation, and one which has blown the lid off Hawaii, there were found the records of Benny Ahakuelo and Henry Chang, two defendants in the Massie rape case. The records show that they tried in 1929 to assault a half-witted Chinese girl and were permitted to plead guilty.

The two were sentenced to an indeterminate period of four months to fifteen years and were released on parole after four months. Kahahawai was tried last year for first degree robbery, and after a mistrial a compromise plea was accepted and he was given thirty days.

These three were identified by Mrs. Massie. Despite the identification, they were released on low bonds after the mistrial and went about town to dances and football games. They were also leaders of street gangs which insulted navy men and women on many occasions.

One Defendant Set Free.

Chang still is subject to reconfinement on his parole, but no action has been taken and Ahakuelo was given his full discharge by Gov. Lawrence M. Judd last February. Judd acted at the request of the parole board and at the instigation of influential local individuals.

The story now comes out that while the men were out on bail and before the murder and while the navy personnel was fuming and straining over the situation, Rear Admiral Yates Stirling went to Gov. Judd and asked to have the defendants confined as he would not answer to holding his men. He said serious trouble might result.

Judd refused this and after the murder Stirling again visited the executive mansion and told the governor that this action led to the murder of Kahahawai. The defendants still are legally at liberty on bond but they have been in and out of jail on their own desire.

When they feel that the situation is getting dangerous for them, they go to jail for protection.

Needed on the Eastern Shore

Circuit Judge A. M. Cristy, of the American criminal court at Honolulu, is needed on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

2-6-32 Afro-American

Stunned by the manifest disposition of a grand jury to inject the race question into the case of the lynching of Joseph Kahahawai, a native Hawaiian, whose dead body was found in an automobile with two white men and a white woman after a chase by police, and their seeming intention to refuse to indict the slayers although they were caught red handed, the jurist had the following to say:

> "If a crime has been committed, the identity of the criminal known and that it is criminal in the sense of the technical provision of the law, and the grand jury for reasons refuses to present an indictment therefor, I present to you the question of anarchy in the community.
>
> "Incidents occurring outside the jury room, before your consideration of the present case began, indicate the possibility that one or more of you entered the session with minds so fixed and determined on personal views of law and fact that you were prepared to prevent any indictment in the matter pending so far as you were able, notwithstanding what the evidence might be and notwithstanding what the court should advise the jury that the law might be.
>
> "Under the law of this territory, no man may legally take the life of another except in legitimate self-defense and no person can invoke the law of self-defense who himself created difficulty by his own illegal act.
>
> "I ask you gentlemen to lay aside all race prejudice and rise above personal, trivial considerations and apply yourselves to the question whether this government shall exist, and how.
>
> "Any one of the jurors who is unwilling to follow the law because of fixed ideas, however conscientiously arrived at, should make his difficulties known to the court and be excused."

Under the sting of these accusing words the grand jury brought in an indictment, though for second degree murder only.

In Honolulu a colored native was accused of a criminal attack on the white wife of an American officer. While his case was being settled in the courts, the husband of the white woman, her mother and two white sailors, it is alleged, kidnapped him, took him to their home and lynched him. They were on their way to dispose of the body when apprehended.

Down on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, a prominent white man was killed. In plain view of hundreds of witnesses, an accused colored man was lynched. The body was dragged through the streets for half an hour and then burned.

If a white judge in a territorial possession of these United States could force a grand jury to do its duty, what is holding back the judges, officials and good citizens on the Eastern Shore? What is the difference between anarchy in the Hawaiian Islands and anarchy in the Free State of Maryland?

As the AFRO-AMERICAN has pointed out before, every decent citizen would like to see the perpetrator of every assault on both white and colored women punished to the full extent of the law. But when a whole community joins in silent anarchy to protect lynchers, as is being done on the Eastern Shore in the recent lynching case, they are sowing the seed for more and bigger crimes.

Lynchings-1932

Rape by Whites

Honolulu, Hawaii

3823

Letter Of Protest Sent To Secretary Of Navy By National Association

Plaindealer

1-29-32

New York ,Jan. 22.—Public rebuke for Admiral William V. Pratt, Chief of Naval Operations, because of his defense of "lynch law" in Hawaii, is asked in a letter sent yesterday to Charles Francis Adams, Secretary of the Navy, by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue.

Topeka, Kansas.

The Association's letter also severely censures the sub-committee of the House Committee on Naval Affairs for urging commendation of the officials of the navy reported to have taken the law in their hands in the Hawaiian situation.

"In making this protest," says the Advancement Association's letter, "we do not enter into any discussion of the details of the recent crimes in Honolulu, nor does it take any position on the guilt or innocence of any parties concerned in any of them.

"It is our conviction that Admiral Pratt's statement, as quoted in the press of the nation, declaring "American men will not stand for the violation of their women under any circumstances and have taken the law into their own hands repeatedly when they have felt the law has failed to do justice," is a unqualified endorsement of lynching and mob murder."

The subcommittee of the Committee on Naval Affairs is held by the Association "equally guilty" with Admiral Pratt. Secretary Adams is asked to give "public rebuke to these defenders of lawlessness and mob violence" and to take steps to punish persons guilty of these offenses. The letter continues:

"Unless such action is taken, fair minded and intelligent individuals of the world will be convinced that, first armed forces of the nation can be arbitrarily employed to protect suspects in crime, and, second, that the United State navy permits is underlings to practice and to uphold lynch law. Citizens of the United States and especially twelve million American Negroes ,would like to know why the armed forces of the nation can be used to protect persons accused of lynching outside the United States, but cannot be used to protect persons from lynching mobs in the United Sta

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LYNCHING IN HAWAII.

Age 1-23-32

New York, N.Y.

Hawaii, once written of as an earthly paradise of the Pacific, has now, according to the hysterical newspapers, become "an unsafe place for white women." It has also become acquainted with the beauties of lynch law, which suppiants the regular processes of the law by private vengeance or mob murder. The peculiar thing about this introduction of murder as a reprisal for a crime of which the murdered man had not been convicted, is that its perpetrators form a part of the naval force at Honolulu.

Even the Navy Department at Washington was not without its part in encouraging this resort to lynch law, in giving out a confidential report of Admiral Stirling, which sought to justify a resort to violence by the navy people. One reason assigned for the recent outbreak of crimes and violence in Honolulu is the truculent bearing of the soldiers and sailors toward the natives, or even toward white civilians. One eyewitness said he had seen naval officers swaggering around the hotels as if they were in an occupied country. Most of them came from the Southern states, and felt it necessary to conduct themselves with the same arrogance that was manifested in Haiti and San Domingo.

Then there was the usual mixture of the soldiers and sailors with the native women and its inevitable results in arousing animosities among the native community. Preferential treatment was always demanded for any of the military or naval forces who came into conflict with the law, whether he was plain drunk, or charged with some more serious crime. This has led to the demoralization of the whole community and undermined the respect for Americans and American law formerly held.

While the presence of fifteen hundred or more soldiers and sailors near Honolulu has been of commercial advantage to the business community, it probably has been at a serious toll paid in damage to the morals and health of the community, especially the native part of it.

The kidnapping and murder of a Hawaiian charged though not convicted of being concerned in an attack on the wife of a naval officer is the culmination of this sordid state of affairs. That the whole powers of Congress should be invoked to shield the Americans found in a conveyance with the dead man is illustrative of the effrontery of the naval situation in Hawaii. It is to be hoped that the Department of Justice investigators sent there may reduce the situation to its proper status, and put a quietus on lynching.

A Universal Sentiment.

Memphis

Appeal

1/7/32

Last week Admiral William Veazie Pratt, chief of naval operation in Washington, made this statement:

"American men will not stand for the violation of their women under any circumstances. For this crime they have taken the matter into their own hands repeatedly when they have felt that the law has failed to do justice.

Admiral Pratt had reference to the attack on Lieutenant Massie's wife in Honolulu by four Hawaiians. Subsequently one of the Hawaiians was killed and Lieutenant Massie, his mother-in-law and two enlisted men were arrested, charged with murder.

There is evidence of indignation throughout this country and by all the white people in Hawaii as a result of the exposure of conditions showing that white women are not safe in the Hawaiian Islands.

It is also perfectly evident that Admiral Pratt expressed a universal opinion. It is certainly the prevalent opinion in the south. The Hawaiian case is not unlike situations that have arisen in the south. Southern men have been condemned for taking matters into their own hands when the law is not adequate, or fails to function. In our hearts we are all very much alike.

N. A. A. C. P. ASKS PUBLIC REBUKE FOR HIGH NAVY OFFICER

Reporter

New York, Jan. 21.—Public rebuke for Admiral William V. Pratt, Chief of Naval Operations, because of his defense of "lynch law" in Hawaii, is asked in a letter sent Friday to Charles Francis Adams, Secretary of the Navy, by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth Avenue.

1-23-32

The Association's letter also severely censures the sub-committee of the House Committee on Naval Affairs for urging commendation of the officials of the Navy reported to have taken the law in their hands in the Hawaiian situation.

Birmingham, Ala.

"In making this protest," says the Advancement Association's letter, "this Association does not enter into any discussion of the details of the recent crimes in Honolulu, nor does it take any position on the guilt or innocence of any parties concerned in any of them.

Endorses Lynching

"It is our conviction that Admiral Pratt's statement, as quoted in the press of the nation, declaring 'American men will not stand for the violation of their women under any circumstances and have taken the law into their own hands repeatedly when they have felt the law has failed to do justice,' is an unqualified endorsement of lynching and mob murder."

The sub-committee of the Committee on Naval Affairs is held by the Association "equally guilty" with Admiral Pratt. Secretary Adams is asked to give "public rebuke to these defenders of lawlessness and mob violence" and to take steps to punish persons guilty of these offenses. The letter concludes:

"Unless such action is taken, fair-minded and intelligent individuals of the world will be convinced that, first, armed forces of the nation can be arbitrarily employed to protect suspects in crime, and second, that the United States Navy permits its underlings to practice and to uphold lynch law. Citizens of the United States and especially 12 million American Negroes, would like to know why the armed forces of the nation can be used to protect persons accused of lynching outside the United States, but cannot be used to protect persons from lynching mobs in the United States."

Color Issue In Hawaiian Disturbance

Argus

1-22-32

St. Louis Mo.

Sees Strife Due To Discrimination Against Darker Natives As Cause Of Unrest And Trouble On The Island

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 21 —The hatred and tumult that grips Honolulu—a hatred fierce as a tropical hurricane—can be traced directly to the culmination of years of gradual ascendancy of the Honolulu "beach boy"—a bronzed, carefree, primitive whose naive charm has led him into the highest circles of society of the "Paradise of the Pacific" according to A. B. Loudermilk, former student of the 'University of Hawaii and former member of the communication staff of the Radio Corporation of America.

Discriminated Against

"A triangular situation of jealousy and misunderstanding, then, is the cause of the present so-called interracial strife," Loudermilk sets forth

"The male population—whether it be the military or tourist—looks on the bronzed beach boy as transgressing racial barriers. Because the boys are dark, the military in particular considers them on the same plane as Negroes and servants. The boys resent this.

"The diving boys" on the other hand, consider the more fortunately situated beach boys as arrogant. They are jealous and envious of these youths attachments to women of wealth and position."

"The diving boy sees the beach boy—with his charm and gaiety—penetrate the highest levels of the American tourist society. He does not realize that the beach boy is only an entertainer. And he is only this except in a few regrettable cases where, in all truthfulness, it is the fault of jaded and thrill-seeking American women.

"Pandering to American women has corrupted the beach boy into a gigolo. But he is a gigolo with his tongue in his cheek.

"The diving boy believes himself the equal of the beach boy, and the tales of the bacchanalian fetes engaged in by the beach boys and white women intensified the already inflamed imaginations of the diving hoodlums.

"Outside looking in, their conceptions of the morals of the women are weird beyond belief.

"Their imaginations thus sharpened by inherent jealousy for the beach boys, they have attempted to emulate their conception of the beach boys, relationss with women

"If Honolulu has a racial problem—if the present strife is an interracial outburst or passion—then we must say that it is the jealousy of the half-caste hoodlum diving boy for the pureblood beach boy whom station he cannot reach.

Officers Look Down

That and the fact that the strictly reared army and navy officers—accustomed to issuing orders—look on all natives, the beach boys included, as inferior persons to be treated as servants.

"The code of the southern and New England states—and most of the Honolulu officers are from those sections of the country—are such that they cannot understand the apparent attachment of women for the beach boys.

SANCTION OF MURDER IN HAWAII IS FLAYED

Courier

1-23-32

NEW YORK, Jan. 21—Public rebuke for Admiral William V. Pratt, Chief of Naval Operations, because of his defense of "lynch law" in Hawaii, is asked in a letter sent yesterday (Friday) to Charles Francis Adams, Secretary of the Navy by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth avenue.

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New York

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N.Y.

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'Alleged Slayers' Release Sought

Advertiser

1-28-32

Judicial Coercion Charged In Motion To Free Four Americans In Honolulu

Montgomery

Ala.

HONOLULU, Jan. 27.—(AP)—Charging judicial coercion was used to obtain the indictment of Mrs. Granville Fortescue, and three Navy men for the slaying of Joseph Kahahawai, alleged woman attacker, defense attorneys filed a motion today to quash the second degree murder accusation.

The indictment was returned yesterday after Circuit Judge A. M. Cristy had refused to accept one Grand Jury report and had confronted the inquisitorial body with a reference to anarchy. The jury supposedly had attempted to return a "no bill" in the lynching case.

Dissolution of the indictment was asked on the ground it was not the voluntary act of the Grand Jurors.

Arraignment of the quartet was set for 9 a.m. Friday. Judge Cristy denied them freedom of the Navy Yard at Pearl Harbor, where they are held, without furnishing bond.

Predictions were made here that the three Navy men would not be tried in civil court because of a "gentlemen's agreement" between Honolulu and naval authorities giving the Navy jurisdiction of personnel when alleged crimes do not call for capital punishment. The sentence for second degree murder is 20 years to life imprisonment.

Rear Admiral Yates Stirling declined to comment on his report to Washington that influence was used on the Grand Jury to obtain the indictment. Robert W. Shingle, president of the Territorial Senate, said he had heard on good authority that no indictment would have been returned had not Judge Cristy addressed the jury.

It was reported that the second degree indictment was a compromise, made on the assumption the principals thus would not be tried in civil courts.

Besides Mrs. Fortescue, the defendants are Lieut. Thomas H. Massie, Albert O. Jones and E. J. Lord. Kahahawai was one of five suspected attackers of Mrs. Massie, daughter of Mrs. Fortescue.

Charles F. Weeber, 39, who retired from the Army in 1921 as chief clerk, was named temporary chief of police of Honolulu today by the newly-created police commission.

The quash motion asserted Judge Cristy had refused to accept a report of the Grand Jury last Friday in which "no bills" against the defendants were voted.

Judge Cristy, the motion said, then specifically charged the Grand Jury "with reference to the criminal character of alleged acts of the defendants."

Judge Cristy's admonition to the Grand Jury yesterday prior to the returning of the indictment was cited in the defense motion as "coercive." The motion quoted the jurist as having told the Grand Jury to "apply yourselves coolly and impartially to the question of whether this government shall exist, and how it shall exist."

Such language, the motion asserted, "tended to cause members to believe that unless they voted a true bill their failure would be subversive to good government and that the Government could not exist unless a true bill were voted."

ISLANDERS NOT SURPRISED AT CRIME OUTBREAK

That the trouble which resulted in the murder of a Hawaiian black boy and the arrest of prominent white Americans in connection with the crime was not wholly unexpected was intimated by W. T. Crockett, Morgan College graduate and former Hawaiian judge, advised the AFRO this week.

Mr. Crockett, who has served as a judge on the island and is respected both at home and in the states as a leading legal authority, declared that the Massie-Fortescue slaying was merely the culmination of events that have been brewing on the islands for sometime.

1/27/32

Writing from Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii, Mr. Crockett says that while the people of the islands are sorry that either of the alleged crimes were committed, they felt that such would eventually happen ,owing to conditions that have been brewing for som etime.

There is a large number of white sailors stationed on the islands at all times, he declared, many of whom have been very rough with Hawaiians and other colored races on the islands. This treatment has resulted in bitter racial feeling.

These soldiers have subjected the women of the island to insults for which no punishment was ever meted out. In every instance, the soldiers and sailors have been placed under suspected sentences and the cases have been allowed to drag along until they are forgotten.

Taxi Dances

A further source of trouble, he declared, is the taxi dance halls, where soldiers and civilians mingle and the local men resent the treatment to which the native girls are subjected by the soldiers in such places.

The women are forced to endure all manner of insults without redress. That there has developed a bitter feeling of revenge; and what has occurred, the alleged rape of the white officer's wife, is trought to be the culmination of this suppressed feeling against a wrong long endured. That a break was coming has been evident to the bttter thinking people for some time, Judge Crockett declares, but no attention was paid to the situation by those in authority.

The people of the island, says Judge Crockett, have been very tolerant in accepting the abuses of the American soldiery, but the younger generation has refused to sumbit without seeking retaliation.

Lynchings-1932

Illinois.

Rape by Whites

RAPE VICTIMS TO VIEW GIRL'S 3 ASSAILANTS

Chicago Tribune

Youths Held for Showup Following Confessions.

5/4/32

(Picture on back page.)

Three young men who have confessed attacking Miss Rose Aumuller, 22, of 5032 North Major avenue, last Sunday morning, were held at the detective bureau last night for a showup before all recent victims of rape.

The prisoners, who were arrested by policemen from the Irving Park station, are:

Thomas De Michael, 24 years old, 3252 North Central avenue; Carmen De Michael, 19 years old, a brother of Thomas, and Joseph Christopher, 21 years old, 2735 North Newcastle avenue.

Accepts Ride in Auto.

Miss Aumuller, who lives with her mother and brothers, had been to a dance Saturday night. She was on her way home early Sunday morning and was waiting for a bus at Central and Belmont avenues when the three youths came along in an automobile. They asked her if she wanted to ride with them.

After some hesitation and when they told her a bus would not come along for an hour, she accepted their invitation, she told Capt. Ira McDowell.

Instead of taking her home, however, they drove past it and out Higgins road. There Thomas De Michael and Christopher attacked her, tearing her clothing. Carmen De Michael, who recently was released from a hospital, did not molest her but watched his companions, Miss Aumuller said. They left her bruised and bleeding, to get home as best she could.

Remembers License Number.

The girl had noted the license number of the automobile, and although she was unable to go to the police station to make a complaint her brothers notified Capt. McDowell. Sergts. Ignatius Brandt and Edwin O'Malley learned the name of the owner of the automobile and arrested the three.

None of the three expressed any regret or sympathy for the girl after admitting the attack, according to Sergt. Brandt. The police had difficulty in restraining the girl's brothers from attacking the prisoners in the police station.

Youths Boast of 8 Attacks on Young Girls

4-18-32

Chicago Tribune

Two young rapists who boasted that they had kidnaped seven or eight young women from the vicinity of the University of Chicago during the last few weeks abducted a high school girl and her escort last night and ravished the girl.

The rape was the latest of twelve or fifteen on the south side in little over a month, it was said, and the residents there are reported to be aroused. Police squads have been on the lookout for the hoodlums and are ready for a little quick shooting, if necessary.

Victim a High School Girl.

Last night's victim was an 18 year old senior in the Hyde Park High school whose name was withheld. She and Harold Overhiser, 20, of 5822 Drexel boulevard, a senior at Tilden High, were returning home from a movie when they stopped their car for signals at 67th street and Jeffery avenue. Two armed men, each about 24 years old, boarded their automobile. They forced Overhiser to drive to 81st street and Jeffery avenue. While one guarded the youth the other assaulted the girl. Then the first man raped her.

Boasts of Seven Other Rapes.

"This is an easy racket," boasted one of the men. "We've already raped seven or eight girls and we picked them up from around the University of Chicago."

The gunmen took $7 from Overhiser and then fled. Overhiser drove to the girl's home. Her father notified police and then took his daughter to the Chicago Lying-In hospital. Physicians said she was suffering from shock and hysteria. At the hospital it was said that two other young women had been treated there last week following brutal assaults.

SWANSON'S AIDS TOLD TO DEMAND LIFE FOR RAPISTS

Mueller Urges New Law for Juvenile Cases.

Chicago Tribune

5/12/32

Acting First Assistant State's Attorney Charles J. Mueller yesterday held a conference with the regular trial court staff of prosecutors to instruct them in the campaign ordered by State's Attorney Swanson against sex criminals. Legitimate rape cases should be prosecuted speedily, and under no circumstances should any bargains be made with those charged with sex crimes, the prosecutor said.

Mr. Mueller, who has built up a reputation as a vigorous prosecutor during his dozen years in the state's attorney's office, took occasion during the conference to differentiate between what he called legitimate rape cases and others involving youths which are catalogued under the law as statutory rape, but which often amount to no more than misdemeanor.

Rape Law Held Inadequate.

"My experience has taught me that each case must be judged on its merits," said the prosecutor. "You cannot really say that any two cases are exactly alike. The legislature should, to be consistent, make some new definitions of the sex laws.

"Calling crimes by names which should not have been applied to them, and then changing the charge in court to fit the facts, breeds contempt for law. When a person is brought into court, he should be tried under the proper charge, and only in extraordinary circumstances should any change be made in the charge."

It was pointed out at the prosecutor's office that many charges of statutory rape involving young girls and youths have been changed to charges of contributing to the delinquency of a minor because of the inconsistencies in the laws passed by the legislature. This inconsistency, it is said, is due to the failure of the legislature to take into consideration the fact that girls of certain nationalities are known to mature before the age limit of 16 years as set by the statute in rape cases.

"Puppy Love" Legal Problem.

In many cases young girls and youths not yet out of their teens have become involved in what an assistant prosecutor termed "puppy love affairs." In such cases the state is compelled to substitute a delinquency misdemeanor charge for the statutory rape charge. The full force of statutes should, of course, be preserved where the victim is a mere child, the prosecutor said.

A separate misdemeanor statute should be passed to take care of such "puppy love affairs," where no force or duress is used, instead of designating the crime as rape, as must now be done under the law, some of the prosecutors suggested. Marriage before conviction is at present the only alternative to a penitentiary sentence, unless the court records are changed to show a different charge.

"In cases where the defendants are men, who should know better, the statutory provisions of the age limit should be strictly followed," Prosecutor Mueller told his conferees.

Life Terms Held Just.

"The Supreme court of this state has ruled that a life sentence in a rape case is not a cruel and inhuman punishment. The assistants should not hesitate to ask for this sentence in cases where the facts warrant a severe punishment.

"Sex crimes have been on the increase of late and it is the duty of you men, under the direct instructions of Mr. Swanson, to see to it that rape cases are disposed of speedily. In the cases which are actually rape, there must be no compromising of punishment, even though the defendants offer to bargain in return for a plea of guilty. Sure and speedy punishment is the only deterrent to any class of crime, and we hope that this drive on rape cases will soon cause a decrease of sex crimes."

15 Year Old Girl Attacked.

A 15 year old girl was kidnaped by two men last night at Western avenue and Logan boulevard and driven to a lonely road between Gary and Hammond, where she was raped. The pair then drove the girl to Indiana Harbor and threw her from the car. She notified police.

Lynchings-1932

Indiana

3812

Rape by Whites

RAPE ATTEMPT COLLECTOR IS NOT INDICTED

Indianapolis Recorder

White Man Escapes Laws Claws On Alleged Assault On Girl

7/9/32

Elmer McGill, 815 Dawson street, white rent collector accused of attempting to rape 15-year-old Essa Belle Jenkins in the girl's home, 960 West North street on the morning of May 27, was not among the more than 200 persons indicted by the Marion county grand jury in its semi-annual report, Friday of last week.

The sensational rape attempt case was taken before the grand jury following a conference between G. N. T. Gray, president of the Indianapolis branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People with Prosecuting Attorney Herbert E. Wilson after the deputy prosecutor at police court is alleged to have refused to allow Mrs. Alex Jenkins, mother of the girl, to swear out a warrant for the white man's arrest.

Denial of a warrant for the collector's apprehension was based on the grounds that the white man's attack on the girl was not successful.

McGill, a Herbert E. Redding real estate office employe, went to the West North street address to post a "For Rent" sign on the house occupied by the Jenkins family.

Pushed Door Open

After being told by Miss Jenkins, a Crispus Attucks school pupil, that her parents were not at home, the white man is said to have pushed open the door, walked into the house and forthwith started to make improper advances to the young school girl.

Included among the collector's promises to the child was a dollar which the latter refused to accept. In addition to the dollar offer, McGill is said to have also promised not to post the rent sign on the house if she consented. When the girl, who was alone with her two small sisters, one an infant in her arms, flatly turned down this second proposition becaues of her expressed desire to "go through scohol and amount to something," McGill is said to have grabbed her by the arm and pushed her toward a davenport.

Girl Puts Up Fight

The result was an alleged scuffle between the school girl and the intruder, Miss Jenkins putting up a fight for her honor that not only resulted in victory, but netted for the school girl, the reputation of being one of the luckiest little fighters in Indianapolis.

The white man is alleged to have given up the fight and left after posting the "For Rent" sign on the house and cautioning the Jenkins grl not to tell anyone what had happened.

N. A. A. C. P. Disappointed

McGill was later identified by Detective Sergeants McCarty and Rauls as the person who attempted to commit the criminal offense.

Commenting on the failure of the grand jury to indict the accused man, the local N. A. A. C. P. head said:

"The failure of the grand jury to return an indictment in this case is what might have been expected in Mississippi, but it was not what I expected after investigating the case. Can anyone imagine a Negro charged with criminal attack upon a white girl, escaping the penitentiary? In this case the culprit has not been even questioned by any legal agency. Surely justice is blind, case. There must be some recourse bound and gagged, so far, in this at law to make it possible to throw some protection around Negro womanhood in Indiana. When I have consulted Henry J. Richardson, Jr., the lawyer handling the case for the branch, I hope to be able to take further action."

Lynchings-1932

Iowa

3813

Rape by Whites.

MAN CHARGED WITH RAPE AND MANSLAUGHTER

Gary American
Gary Indiana
7-23-32

WATERLOO Ia.— A white man has been arrested and held to the grand jury here by the Waterloo branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, on rape and manslaughter following the death of Mrs. Mollie Mitchell, colored, on June 19. Mrs. Mitchell was foudn hlf-nude and in a stupor in an abandned house. Local police rushed her to a hospital and attempted to assribe her death to alcoholism. Investigaton by members of the N. A. A. C. P. indicated that Mrs. Mitchell had been drugged and criminally assaulted by four foreigners. All four were arrested but three were released for lack of evidence. The third is awaiting action of the grand jury. The legal work for the branch is being handled by M. F. Fields. J. H. Patton is president of the branch.

Half-Nude Woman Left Dying; White Man Held As Rapist

Journal and Guide

WATERLOO, Ia.—A white man has been arrested and held for the grand jury here on charges of rape and manslaughter following the death of Mrs. Mollie Mitchell on June 19. 6-27-32

Mrs. Mitchell was found half-nude and in a stupor in an abandoned house. Local police rushed her to a hospital and attempted to ascribe her death to alcoholism.

Norfolk, Va.

Investigation by local members of the N. A. A. C. P. indicated that Mrs. Mitchell had been drugged and criminally assaulted by four foreigners.

All four were arrested, but three were released for lack of evidence. The third is awaiting action of the grand jury. The legal work for the branch is being handled by M. F. Fields. J. H. Patten is president of the branch.

Lynchings-1932
6

Kansas

3814

Rape by Whites.

Kansas Farmers Continue Search For Girl's Slayer

Advertiser

Montgomery, Ala.

Man Who Killed Young Student After Attack Sought By Mobs

4-18-32

COLBY, KAN., April 17.—(AP)—Angry mutterings were voiced today as Western Kansas farmers and their families gathered at the Selden, Kan., High School auditorium for the funeral of Dorothy Hunter, 8, who was ravished and slain by Richard Read, 53.

Foiled in attempts at mob violence by Sheriff Ed McGinley, who spirited Read to a secret hiding place, men of the little prairie community last night continued efforts to locate the confessed slayer.

Automobiles speeded over the countryside until dawn, their occupants making no effort to conceal their desire for summary punishment. Officials estimated that 500 men participated in the night's vain search.

The slayer, an ex-Colorado convict, and a bachelor farmer of the district, yesterday led police to a haystack where he had hidden the body of his little victim. The girl was kidnaped from a country school house Friday evening.

A few minutes after the recovery of the body, Sheriff McGinley spirited his prisoner to safety ahead of the occupants of 50 pursuing automobiles.

The high school auditorium was filled for the funeral of the little girl. Her body was carried by six boys and girls from the third and fourth grades [illegible] the public school.

Lynchings-1932

Kentucky.

3815

Rape by Whites.

MAIDS BEATEN, ASSAULTED BY GUESTS IN LOOP HOTELS

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—It has been reported here that several maids in hotels here have been assaulted by white guests. One of the maids it was said had been criminally assaulted.

6-9-32

Lynchings-1932

Maryland

3817

Rape by Whites.

RAPE DAUGHTER OF M.E. PASTOR AT EASTON, MD.

Afro-American

Body of Matron Outraged Found Outside Queen Anne Hotel.

1/8/32

TERRORISMS OF MOB CONTINUE

Autoist Threatened, Curfew at Ridgely.

EASTON, Md.—Mrs. Pearl Waters McDaniels, member of a well known Eastern Shore family, was murdered here Monday night

Her body, with clothing disarranged and giving evidence of criminal assault, was found near the Queen Anne Hotel, in a white neighborhood. Marks on the throat and neck indicated that she had been first strangled to death in the effort to fight off her assailants who had raped and throttled her and then dragged the body up a dark alley one hundred feet from the main street of the city.

Mrs. McDaniels was the wife of a local waiter and the daughter of the Rev. D. G. Waters, pastor of Asbury M.E. Church, Salisbury, Md., by his first wife. She had left home to go to a drug store and the presence of her body in a white neighborhood is unexplained.

Police have arrested James Cornish and Duke Stanley. It is believed their testimony will implicate higher-ups in the outrage.

Funeral of the murdered woman will take place from Asbury Church, Easton, Thursday at 2 p.m.

ACCUSES SIX ITALIAN MEN OF ROBBERY, RAPE

Dragged Her to Cellar and Stifled Efforts to Scream.

Afro-American

ONE ESCAPES

Others Arrested and Held for Grand Jury.

2-17-32

Six young Italians are being held for grand jury action on the complaint of Miss Carrie Young, 22, 703 Pennsylvania Avenue, that she was criminally assaulted and robbed by them late Thursday night.

Miss Young testified in Western police court, Friday morning that she was returning from a visit to her mother in the 500 block Carrollton Avenue, when she was seized in an alley running off Arch Street, and her attempts to scream stifled by hands being placed over her mouth.

Dragged to Cellar

She was then dragged to the cellar of the building where each of the six men attacked her, despite her strenuous efforts to escape. After their purpose had been accomplished she was robbed of $2.00. The men then left the room, she said, and going to Pearl Street she summoned a policeman who called others who rounded up five of the gang. The sixth man escaped.

Held in Bail

The men arrested and held in $500 bail each by Magistrate Frank J. Bauer, were: Joseph Fonte, 19, 615 West Saratoga Street; Joseph Finazza, 20, 637 W. Saratoga Street; John Alescta, 16, 617 W. Saratoga Street; Sam Leberta, 17, 631 N. Pearl Street; Frank Dantoni, 19, 307 N. Pearl Street. Sergeant Forrest and Officers Michael Hoban and John Himler made the arrests.

Lynchings-1932

Massachusetts

3827

Rape by Whites.

CONVICT PERELLI

RACKETEER WHO BEAT UP BOSTON COLORED GIRLS FINED ON TWO COUNTS — ONLY $25 ON EACH—HE APPEALS

6-11-32

Guy Perrelli, alias Guy Morgan, of the North End, was foun dguilty and John F. Meldon, of the South End, not guilty, of assault and battery on two sisters, Mrs. Christina Benders and Mis Marjorie Trent, of Haskins St., Roxbury, before Judge Joseph T. Zottali in Municipal court yesterday.

Perrelli was fined $25 on each complaint and on his appeal was freed on his personal recognizance. The hearing resulted from an alleged attack by the two men on the two women on May 4 at a malt store conducted by the defendants on Tremont St., near Massachusetts Ave., May 4, and resulted in a "race riot."

Lynchings-1932

Missouri

3816

Rape by Whites.

JURY FREES WOMAN WHO SLEW ATTACKER OF HER CHILD

East Tennessee news

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — "Not Guilty," As the words rang out in the courtroom of Judge Brown Harris, they came like a ray of sunshine out of a threatening sky to a mother on trial for the murder of the man who had criminally attacked her five-year-old daughter, and who had been acquitted of the charge.

2-11-32

Robert McElroy, white, charged with having raped the baby daughter of Mrs. Little, had just stepped from the witness stand, after judge J. J. Dougherty, in whose court the trial was held, had acquitted him. Although physicians had testified that the child was scratched and lacerated, the man was not held, and as he stepped from the stand, turned to Mrs. Little and snarled, "Now you see what you got."

Knoxville Tenn

It was then that the grief-stricken mother perked a revolver from her bosom screaming, "You dirty dog, I knew I wouldn't get justice. I'm glad I got you, I'm glad I got you," she fired a shot into his body, which two hours later caused his death. The courtroom was thrown into a furore, and police were forced to use their clubs to restore order. McElroy was rushed to the hospital, and Mrs. Little was placed in a cell, while a charge of first degre murder was lodged against her.

On December 15th, after several postponements, her case came to trial, at which time the jury reported a deadlock, which resulted in a mistrial. Her retrial started Wednesday morning, January 20th, in Judge Brown Harris' court.

Eye-Witness Testifies.

The climax of the trial was reached when Kyle E. Bird, a student at Yates school, testified that she had witnessed the attack made on the child by McElroy. The Bird girl was the only eye-witness, was thought to have been in Birmingham, Alabama.

Dr. C. M. Alexander testified that Mrs. Little is a victim of St. Vitus dance which renders her temporarily insane at times.

Some time before the assault was made upon her child, Mrs. Little, herself, had been attacked on the Pasea. The man whom she accused, however, was never brought to trial. Mrs. Little's attorneys, Ray Cummings and J. D. Pouncey, who served without fee, stated that she had killed McElroy in defense of Negro womanhood, and that all the previous trouble she had experienced was enough to cause her to lose her bearings. It was also brought out, at the trial, that she had been a mental patient at the General hospital a few years ago.

Michael O'Hern and William Burk represented the state in the case.

Lynchings-1932
6
Rape by Whites.

New Jersey

3828

Refuses to Ride With White Officers; Beaten and Jailed

[illegible]
Thursday, [illegible] 1932

MORRISTOWN, N. J., Aug. 26.—Citizens here are incensed over the treatment accorded Miss Viola Martin, 22 years old, by white police officers when she refused to take a ride with them. According to Miss Martin and a number of other witnesses while returning from a dance last Wednesday night, in company with her sister and another girl, she stopped outside of a store while the girl friend and her sister went inside to make a purchase.

While standing there three men drove up in a car and asked her if she would like to take a ride with them. She refused, and they insisted that they would be able to show her a good time, and tried to force her into the car. She told them to go about their business, which seemingly enraged them. They manhandled her and put her in the car and took her to the police station.

At the station the men were identified as Patrolmen Joseph and Roy Whitehead of the city police department and Lewis Hutton, an ex-chanceman, all white. Miss Martin stayed in jail one hour without explanation or complaint. She claims she was roughly handled there and displayed abrasions of the arm and a broken wrist watch, and is under the care of a physician for a sprained hip.

In Recorder Sar Mischiara's court Thursday evening Officer Doyle stated to Miss Martin's attorney, Michael P. Danna, that there were no complaints against the girl.

In Judge Goldi's court Friday the officers were charged with attempted rape, assault and battery and false imprisonment. They are being held under $1,500 bail each, awaiting the action of the grand jury. Hearing was waived by their lawyers, John Mills and Harold A. Price.

Rev. J. A. Jones, pastor of Calvary Baptist church and a stanch Race leader in the community, heads the group of citizens who secured Attorney M. P. Danna for Miss Martin. Dr. Baxter, president of the Morris county N. A. A. C. P., is assisting in every way possible.

In a meeting Saturday Mayor Potts held an investigation of the officers and promised to deal justly in the matter. Citizens feel that the officers were drunk.

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2 GIRLS ACCUSE MAN, 74; HE KILLS SELF

(Special to the AFRO)

Judge Allmond

ATLANTIC CITY—About to be arrested in charges of having attacked two small girls, 10 and 11 years of age, Charles E. Bergenclint, white, 74-year-old watchman, blew off his head with a 12-gauge shot gun while Magistrate Roselle Allmond waited in an adjoining room to take him in custody. The aged accused ravisher was employed as watchman at the Hudson Cement Company plant Virginia and Mediterranean Avenues. The plant has a large yard where trucks are kept, near which it is customary for young children to frolic.

Lured Into Yard

The two girls are Helen Thomas 11, of 121½ N. Virginia Avenue, and Charlotte Johnson, 10, of 718 Rhea Avenue. According to information Bergenclint enticed the innocent children into the enclosed yard. The attack on one is said by Magistrate Allmond to have been in full view of a police officer, a fireman, and several nearby residents. Urged by the agonizing screams of the little girl as she was being ravished, the witnesses made an unsuccessful attempt to scale the fence or break through the gate. The assaulter escaped during the excitement.

Complaints through legal process were made to Magistrate Allmond. Realizing the seriousness of the charges, he gathered Charlotte and Helen into his auto. Going to 14 S. Massachusetts Avenue, the sex-mad elderly man was found sitting in a room talking with his wife.

Girls Identify Man

The two girls positively identified the man, according to Magistrate Allmond, who read him the warrant and placed him under arrest. Bergenclint, who was in his stocking feet, asked permission to go into the next room and put on his shoes.

"Unsuspectingly, I gave him permission to do so," the magistrate tod the AFRO, Tuesday, in speaking of the case.

Leaving Allmond and the two girls talking with his wife, the aged man went into the adjoining bed room. A few moments later, a terrific explosion was heard. Rushing into the room, Magistrate Allmond and the man's wife found the accused man sprawled, with a large part of his head blown away by the shot gun blast. He died instantly.

Lynchings-1932

New York

3829

Rape by Whites.

RAPIST GANG THREATENS TO KILL VICTIM IF SHE APPEARS TO TESTIFY AGAINST THEM

Age 4-16-32

New York N.Y.

Threatened with death if she attempted to appear before the Grand Jury to press a charge of rape against a man who gave the name of James Moss, and who is said to have been a boxer, Mrs. Lucille Taylor, music teacher, who lives at 2187 Seventh avenue, while scared, has nevertheless determined to appear in court and press the complaint.

Mrs. Taylor when seen by a reporter for The New York Age, said that on Monday morning, April 11, when she opened her letter box found the note in a plain envelope addressed "Mrs. Taylor." The note was printed and had a black hand at the top of the note. It read

"THE BLACK GANG"

(hand)

"MRS. TAYLOR IF YOU APPEAR IN COURT AGAINST MY PAL MONDAY YOU WANT LIVE TO SEE NIGHT SO BEAT IT OUT OF TOWN. THE GANG."

According to Mrs. Taylor, on Friday morning, March 19, two men knocked on the door of her apartment and asked to see the superintendent, who boards with her. Mrs. Taylor told them the superintendent was out. She said that one of the men told her that he was going to kill the superintendent.

When she attempted to close the door, Mrs. Taylor said the men forced their way into her apartment and pulled out a gun and said that he would kill her if she made any outcry. The men asked her if she was the superintendent's sweetheart, and she told them she wasn't, that he was merely her lodger.

One of them, she said, then forced her into a room and attacked her, and threatened at the time to kill her if she resisted his attentions.

She said the other man asked his comrade not to harm her but he persisted, and the man left. The alleged rapist was arrested shortly afterwards by police of the West 123rd street police station.

Mrs. Taylor said that the police told her the man, Moss, had a police record and he was held without bail for hearing before the Grand Jury. Several postponements followed, and the case was scheduled to go before the Grand Jury on Monday morning, but was again postponed until Thursday, April 14.

Upon advice of friends, Mrs. Taylor notified the District Attorney's office of the threat against her life.

Criminal Assault Charge Holds White Man

Age

6-18-32

New York N.Y.

John Hugo, 43, white, of 409 Tompkins avenue, who at one time posed as a self-styled "chaplain" of the Salvation Army, was arrested in his furnished room and held on a criminal assault complaint involving Dorothy Williamson, a nine-year-old girl of 304 Halsey street, following a complaint by the child's mother.

This is the same Hugo who sought to involve Frederick Hicks, 51, of 684 Herkimer street, in the killing of five-year-old Florence McDonnell, white, who was found dead in a cellar February last. Hicks later was exonerated.

It is reported that the white man entered the child's home by a trick, when he found that she was alone, and attacked her.

Detectives James Cahill and Frank Shea of the 77th precinct heard her cries for help and arrested the man when he tried to escape.

He was held without bail for a further hearing when he appeared in the Gates avenue court on Monday, June 6.

When Hugo appeared in spectacular fashion before District Attorney Geoghan on February 8 and told how he had seen Hicks talking to the McDonnell girl, he found himself held by the District Attorney when he was called for a second time on February 10. This was due to the alertness of the District Attorney, whose suspicions were aroused by Hugo.

From Hugo's admissions and from police records, according to Mr. Geoghan, it was learned that Hugo was an ex-convict and had been married to three colored women. His first marriage was in 1913. The last one was in 1929.

In 1911, he deserted from the army. In 1913 he deserted from the navy.

He got 30 days for burglary in Brooklyn in 1915, and later in that year got 12 months for another burglary. According to the police, the man has other prison records.

His connection with the Salvation Army was due to the goodness of Ensign Chisholm, who stated that he hired Hugo to sell copies of the "War Cry," the Army's publication. He only sold a few copies, but his Army work [illegible]

Lynchings-1932

Pennsylvania

3810

Rape by Whites.

LOCAL MAN FATALLY WOUNDED IN CHASE

Courier 1-30-32 Pittsburgh Pa.

As the tragic aftermath of a heroic rescue Friday of a Negro girl who was being attacked, Joseph Bacco, aged 26, white, of 4751 Yew street, passed away in the St. Francis Hospital, Sunday afternoon at 3:20. He died, a martyr to the cause of the protection of womanhood, as the result of a bullet wound suspected to have been fired by Clarence Graham, of 110 Winslow street, who is suspected of attempting to assault Carrie Ross, 26, of Ewing street.

Bacco was wounded after chasing the alleged assailant several blocks after foiling the attempt to attack. The girl's rescuer was visiting with George Keenan, of Ewing street, at the home of Harry Kohler, all white, of Dargan street, Bloomfield, when the screams of a woman attracted them.

"He's killing me!" the girl cried.

The trio gave chase, finally catching up to the assailant. The running man suddenly stopped, drew an automatic pistol and fired. The bullet lodged in Bacco's abdomen. When Bacco dropped, the assailant sprinted away again and the other two men rushed the wounded man to the St. Francis Hospital.

Carrie Ross, 26, of 4038 Ewing street, the girl who was saved, and Clarence Graham, of Winslow street, a suspect, were taken into custody by the police.

COURT HOLDS WHITE MAN FOR ASSAULT

Journal and Guide

Seriously Beaten On Street Car By Brute

3-5-32

MAN ALSO ATTACKED

Norfolk, Va.

Prominent Members Of Penn. Family Are Victims

Special to Journal and Guide

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—Two very refined and respectable young girls, Mrs. Adella Jenkins, 21, and Miss Marie Bailey, 23, sisters, and daughters of a refined Harrisburg family which moved to this city recently, were the victims of an atrocious assault by a huge and uncouth white man on board a trolley car, it was revealed this wek.

This man, whose name is Samuel Berman, 2804 Columbia Avenue, without any reason or provocation tripped these two girls deliberately by sticking his legs out while they were leaving the trolley car at 16th street and Columbia Avenue.

Insults Girls

He had previously been insulting the girls in the trolley car and threatened to slap them which threat was ignored by the young girls.

Notwithstanding that they complained to the motorman, nothing was done and when they left the man tripped them and punched each one in the face several times. The outrage occurred several weeks ago but has just been made public.

The punches on Miss Bailey were so vicious that her eye was practically knocked out causing her to be confined in the Women's Hospital for five weeks. The doctors have stated that her sight has been permanently lost in her right eye.

Arrested and Prosecuted

The man was arrested and prosecuted by Attorney Raymond Pace Alexander before Magistrate Roberts at 19th and Oxford Street Police Station and was held under $1,000 bail for court after the magistrate had pronounced him a vicious character.

It was revealed further that while this young woman was in the hospital, Berman also attacked a colored man in a subway train and he is at present held for bail under that offense.

MAID SAYS SON OF EMPLOYER IS FATHER OF BABE

Journal and Guide

Girl, 15, Shows Light Infant As Testimony Before Court

3-5-32 Norfolk Va.

Special to Journal and Guide

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. — Her speech marred by a childish lisp, 15-year-old Martha Jefferson last Thursday told a jury in this city of improper advances forced upon her by Samuel McClenaghan, white, 25, son of the family by which she was employed as maid.

Represented by Raymond Pace Alexander and Assistant District Attorney Abraham Berkowitz, the illegitimate child, born to the girl from these improper relations she said were forced upon her by the McClenaghan scion, was brought before the court and jury, to serve as testimony in the case.

Attorney Alexander requested the court to permit the jury to view the infant, which was near-white in complexion, with straight hair, in contrast to the dark complexion and kinky hair of the girl-mother. It is believed that this evidence played a strong part in influencing the jury to return its verdict of guilty, charging the McClenaghan youth with fornication and bastardy.

Girl's Mother Talks

In her testimony to the jury, the Jefferson girl, daughter of Mrs. Jefferson, residing in the 600 block of Moss Street, stated that she was employed as maid in the McClenaghan home and that, last fall, as she was cleaning in the kitchen of the home, the McClenaghan youth entered the kitchen and forced her into an intimacy which she was unwilling to undergo.

She further testified that this procedure was repeated on four other occasions, resulting in her giving birth to a child.

Noticing that the child's condition was not what it should be, the mother, Mrs. Jefferson, had her examined by a physician, discovering that the girl was about to become a mother.

Mrs. Jefferson testified that McClenaghan stated that he would care for the infant if Mrs. Jefferson would refrain from informing his family of his part in the affair.

Defense's Claims

Defense counsel, representing the youth, sought to bring out testimony from various members of the McClenaghan family that Martha had confessed to previous sexual indiscretion with a cousin of hers. Defense counsel also sought to impress upon the jury that the girl was subnormal and that her unattractive physical appearance would deter a well-to-do white man, such as his client, from any improper advances.

Several character witnessed were introduced to testify as the good character and morality of McClenaghan. The newly married wife of the defendant, his mother and sister, all testified that the girl had admitted having improper relations with her cousin.

Journal and Guide 3-5-32

Notwithstanding this testimony, the jury, faced with the contrasting appearances of the girl and her baby, returned the verdict of guilty, assigning McClenaghan as the father of the infant.

Resident here were impressed with the fair and impartial way in which Trial Judge John E. Walsh conducted the case.

WHITE MAN WHO FORCED SELF ON MAID CONVICTED

Amsterdam News 3-2-32

Phila. Jury Finds Him to Be Father of Her Child

New York N.Y.

PHILADELPHIA, March [illegible]. — A rather strange case of interracial relations was heard by Judge Walsh on Thursday when Martha Jefferson, who lives on Moss street, swore that she was forced into sexual relations by the son of her employer when she was only fifteen years of age and that the son is the father of her child. Martha told the court and jury that she was employed at the time as a maid in the home of Samuel McClenaghan, Forty-sixth street and Haverford avenue, and had been working there for one year after her school hours.

Amsterdam

She and her mother, Mary Jefferson, were represented by Atty. Raymond Pace Alexander who, assisted by District Attorney Abraham Berkowitz, were able to convince the jury that the defendant was the father of the girl's child.

Atty. William A. Gray, in presenting the defense testimony, brought out the fact that the girl confessed to McClenaghan's mother that she had had sexual intercourse with a cousin who lived in Manayunk and laid great stress on the fact that the girl was a subnormal type, by no means attractive and that no well-to-do white man would have any thoughts of relations of that character with her. Mr. Alexander asked that the jury have an opportunity to see the baby, which was white with straight hair.

White Rapist Is Convicted

Tribune

62-Year Old Man Given Sentence for ATTACK NEGRO CHILD

6-2-32

Savannah Ga.

White Doctors Refuse Child Medical Aid

Pittsburgh, May 27—A 62 year old white rapist is going to the penitentiary for one year by reason of the activity of the Pittsburgh branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People which procured his conviction, according to announcement by Mrs. Jeanne S. Scott, branch secretary.

The rapist, Harry Redford, attacked the 11 year old daughter of a Negro laundress who was delivering the week's washing to him. The assault occurred at Clairton, according to Mrs. Scott who reports that the little girl had to be taken to McKeesport, where a colored physician, Dr. W. W. Gittens, examined her.

The case was referred to the Pittsburgh N. A. A. C. P. by Rev. Lipscombe and another clergyman. Attorney John M. Haggerty represented the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in the trial, the second such case in which he won a conviction, and attorney Homer S. Brown, N. A. A. C. P. branch president, represented the branch.

WHITE U. OF PA TEACHER THEN KILLS SELF

Wharton Professor Advertised for Maid, Thought of Love.

GIRL MOTHER OF 3 FIGHTS FREE

Afro-American

Cops with Warrant, Foiled by Suicide.

9-10-32

Baltimore

Md.

PHILADELPHIA — Frustrated in attempts to ravish the mother of three young children whom he lured to his apartment by a "maid wanted" ad, Dr. William S. Schluter, a white professor of finance at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, married and a father, fired a fatal shot into his brain at noon, Labor Day, while detectives waited in an adjoining room to arrest him on a warrant obtained by the young mother.

Mrs. Victoria Jones 21, of 5321 Market Street, is the comely young woman, who went to the apartment of Schluter at 3425 Powelton Avenue, in search of work to supplement the family budget. Finding that the professor had somewhat distorted ideas of the duties of a maid, Mrs. Jones escaped from her would-be seducer and immediately rushed to complain to the police that Schluter had made advances to her.

Magistrate Usilton issued a warrant, which was supported by an affidavit sworn to by Mrs. Jones. Detectives Hackett and Simmons, of Seventh detective division, went to the educator's home. They reported that when they rang the bell, the professor appeared clad in a white shirt open at the throat and a pair of duck trousers.

Not Surprised

The warrant was read to him and he listened to it without apparent surprise or anxiety, they reported. He asked permission to change his clothing, which was granted. Leaving the detectives in the living room of the apartment, he disappeared into the adjoining bed room.

A moment later a shot was heard. Running in, the detectives found their erstwhile prisoner unconscious on the floor with a bullet wound in the head and a .38 calibre revolver at his side. He died en route to the Presbyterian Hospital, in a motor patrol.

Following his death, detectives began an intensive questioning of the young mother. She declined to re-enact the scenes of the alleged advances made to her when questioned by a representative of the AFRO, Tuesday.

Told to Keep Mum

Mrs. Jones, however, stood by her story that Schluter had attempted to seduce her, but declared, "I have been told not to talk to any one about it." She admitted that police were questioning her very closely, and that she expected them back at any time.

She has three boys, 4, 5, and 19 months of age. Mrs. Jones has lived in the city for 11 years, having come here from Virginia. Her husband is employed, but Mrs. Jones explained that she was trying to increase the family income for the youngsters by securing work whenever possible.

Family Sought

The wife and young daughter of Dr. Schluter are said to be vacationing in Maine, and up to Tuesday police were making an effort to inform them of the tragedy.

According to police records, Schluter was arrested in July of 1924 for attempting to kiss a white woman, Miss Irma Strunk, 17, then living near 42nd and Stiles Street. The young woman reported that she applied for work as typist to assist him in the compilation of a work on finance.

The eratic professor was regarded somewhat as an authority on economics particularly in the field of public finance. He was the author of several articles on the subjejct and had been, from time to time, consulted by prominent individuals for advice on governmental matters.

U. of P. Teacher Kills Self To Avoid Arrest

Philadelphia

Tribune

Takes 'Easiest Way Out' When Charged With Attacking Negro Woman

9-8-32

Philadelphia, Pa.

While the wheels of the law were being set in motion to bring out justice for Dr. William C. Schluter, white, University of Pennsylvania professor, he decided to take the "easiest way out". He shot himself to death in the bathroom of his apartment in Powelton avenue near Thirty-fourth street, last Monday shortly before noon.

The professor was served with a warrant charging him with an attempted criminal attack upon Victoria Jones, 21 years old, of Market stret near Fifty-third, who responded to an advertisement in a newspaper for a job in the Schluter apartment as maid.

Mrs. Jones is a young married woman and has been employed several places as a maid. When press representatives went to the Market street address of Mrs. Jones they were unable to interview her. However the newspapermen did talk to Oscar Jones, her husband. "Gentlemen, I can speak in behalf of my wife. There is no use waiting to see her because I know that she will have nothing at all to say. We have been married for six years and nothing like this has ever happened to her before," Jones said.

Not First Time

Police say that Schluter had been arrested in 1924 on a similar charge. That time he allegedly attacked a young woman who applied for a position in his office as stenographer. His wife and young daughter are said to be spending their vacation in Maine.

Detectives of the Fifth Detective Division who went to the Schluter home to arrest the professor of finance allowed him time to change his clothes after the warrant was read to him. That was the last time they saw him alive.

The professor went to the bathroom where he shot himself in the abdomen several times. He was rushed to a hospital but was dead when admitted.

Immediately after the tragedy detectives began an intensive questioning of Mrs. Jones, who preferred the charges against the professor. The detectives had just left the Jones home when a battery of reporters stormed the entrance.

Texas.

3808

Lynchings - 1932
Rape by Whites.

Sheriff Binford Seeks Attacker Of Colored Girl Here

Houston Informer
8-20-32
Houston, Tex

Investigation into the case of Don Leslie, 40-year-old Houston white man who was charged with rape in connection with an alleged assault upon a local 6-year-old colored girl, the daughter of Mrs. Florence Whitehead, 2702 Clay street, on the afternoon of June 14, revealed this week after diligent research by an Informer reporter, that the county grand jury which probed the case early in July failed to indict the accused Caucasian and he was charged with aggravated assault by O'Brien Stevens, district attorney for Harris County.

The assault charge was filed with Sheriff T. A. Binford, but inquiry at his office disclosed this week that Leslie has never been arrested. Attendants at the sheriff's office stated that the department has been unable to locate Leslie. Sheriff Benford who is seeking reelection, was out of his office and could not be found. It was reported that he was canvassing for votes.

On the day of the alleged assault, according to the child's mother, the white man had hung around their neighborhood under the pretense of searching for some one to work. During the time, he is said to have sat on the Whitehead porch, and assertly called the child to him, pulled the baby on his lap, and treated her indecently. Mrs. Whitehead said she heard the screams, and rushed to the rescue of the child. Leslie had fled, she stated, when she reached the scene.

Arrested at his home, and arraigned before Judge Campbell R. Overstreet, justice of the peace, for a preliminary hearing, Leslie's case was referred to the grand jury which failed to return a true bill. Subsequently, the filing of the assault charge by the district attorney followed, and it has remained on the sheriff's desk since that time.

Lynchings - 1932
6
Reports on, Sent Press.

3832

Jan. - June

Five Lynchings in U. S. First 6 Months of '32

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 2.—(AP)—Five lynchings occurred during the first six months of 1932, R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee Institute, reported today. This compares with six for the similar period last year.

7-3-32

The report showed lynchings occurred in Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Texas.

Atlanta Ga.

Thirteen persons were saved from violence by officers, the report stated. In nine of the instances, the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the other four, force was used to repel the would-be lynchers.

Of the persons lynched, two were white and three were negroes.

5 Lynchings Recorded For First Half Of Year

Advertiser

TUSKEGEE, ALA., July 2.—(AP)—Five lynchings occurred during the first six months of 1932, R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee Institute, reported today. This compares with six for the similar period last year.

7-3-32

The report showed lynchings occurred in Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Texas.

Montgomery

Thirteen persons were saved from violence by officers, the report stated. In nine of the instances, the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the other four, force was used to repel the would-be lynchers.

Nashville, Tenn. Banner
Friday, July 1, 1932

Lynchings During First Half of 1932

Tuskegee, Ala., July 1—(Special)—The following record of lynching and attempted lynchings, has been made public by Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute:

"According to the records at the Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, I find that there were 5 lynchings in the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1931. In 1932, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

"During the first six months of 1932 there were thirteen instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these three were in Northern and Western States and eleven in the Southern States. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the four other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; thus a total of eighteen, five whites and thirteen Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched two were white and three were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape 1, rape 1, murder 1, threatening men 1, dynamiting a store 1.

"The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Florida 1, Kansas 1, Kentucky 1, Ohio 1, Texas 1.

LYNCH RECORD FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF YEAR

American
7-9-32

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, I find that there were 5 lynchings in the first six months of 1932 Th.s number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 2 were in Northern and Western States and 11 in Southern States. In 9 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the other 4 instances force was used to repel the would be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

COLUMBIA, S. C.
RECORD

JUL 2 1932

RECORD FOR LYNCHING IS MAINTAINED

America maintained its record for lynchings in the first six months of 1932, a report from the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute in Alabama, disclosed today.

There were five lynchings in the six months, the same number for the same period in 1931. In 1922 thirty persons were lynched in the six-months' period.

Lynchings have been recorded this year in Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Texas. Two victims were white men and three were negro men. Offenses charged were criminal assault, murder, threatening men, dynamiting store and attempted criminal assault.

Barnwell, S. C., People
Thursday, July 7, 1932

The Lynching Record

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, there were 5 lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 2 were in Northern and Western States and 11 in Southern States. In 9 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the 4 other instances force was used to repel the would be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 negres, were seved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 2 were white and 3 were negroes. Offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

Athens, Ga. Banner-Herald
Sunday, July 3, 1932

NO INCREASE IN LYNCHINGS MADE FIRST HALF YEAR

In the department of records and research, at Tuskegee Institute, the records show that no increase was made this year in lynchings for the first six months of 1932 from that of 1931.

The number of lynchings for the first six months this year was five. Of the persons lynched two were white and three were Negroes. The following states had one lynching in each: Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio, and Texas. The offenses charged were two for attempted rape, one for murder, one for threatening, and one for dynamiting a store.

Ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of 1922. Although there were only five lynchings in the

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first 6 months of 1932 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Through the removing of the prisoners or through the use of force by officers.

JUDGE LYNCH'S SCORE FOR FIRST HALF OF SEASON

Informer

Five people were lynched in America during the first six months of 1932, according to news releases from Tuskegee. The same number were lynched during the first half of 1931, but ten years ago in 1922, thirty persons were lynched during the first six months of the year.

7-9-32

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 2 were in Northern and Western States and 11 in Southern States. In 9 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augumented; in the 4 other instances force was used to repel the would be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Houston Texas

Of the persons lynched, 2 were white and 3 were Negro. The offenses were attepted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

Easley, S. C. Progress
Wednesday, July 6, 1932

Only Five Lynchings in The U. S. During First Six Months of 1932

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, I find that there were five lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in northern and western states and 11 in southern states. In nine of the instances

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Of the persons lynched two were white and three were negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

R. R. Moton,
Principal.

Anniston, Ala. Star
Wednesday, July 6, 1932

LYNCHING RECORD SAME AS LAST YEAR

The lynching record for the first half of 1932 as compiled by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Institute shows no improvement over that of last year, five having been reported for the six months period of each year. But when we go back and compare the record of the first six months of 1931 and 1932 with the total for the same period in 1922 we find that we have advanced far in a decade in the matter of getting away from the disgraceful practice of mob killings. In the first half of 1922, ten years ago, 30 lynchings were recorded.

According to the Tuskegee figures there were 13 instances in the first half of this year in which officers of the law prevented attempted lynchings. Of these frustrated attempts two were in Northern and Western states and eleven were in the South. In nine instances prisoners were removed or the guard augmented to thwart the mobs, while in the other four cases force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 18 persons were saved from the hands of mobs, five of them being white men and 13 negroes.

Of those lynched two were white and three were negroes, it is stated. The crimes with which they were charged were attempted criminal assault, criminal assault, murder, threatening men and dynamiting a store, no two being accused of the same offense.

One lynching was recorded in Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Texas. No state reported more than one, it will be noted from these figures, which is in contrast to some years in the past when several occurred in the same state.

Alabama again came through with a clear record, for which our citizenship is to be congratulated.

ewport News, Va. Times-Herald
Wednesday, July 6, 1932

LYNCHINGS SAME AS LAST YEAR

First Six Months Have Five Occurrences of Mob Violence; Big Improvement in Decade.

Lynchings in the United States for the first six months of the year included five cases of mob violence, the same number as for the first six months of 1931, according to a compilation made at Tuskegee Institute and sent to the Times-Herald by Principal Robert R. Moton. The announcement of the research at Tuskegee follows:

"According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, I find that there were five lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

"During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in Northern and Western states and 11 in Southern states. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the four other instances force was used to repel the would be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, five whites and 13 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched two were white and three were Negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, one; rape, one; murder, one, threatening men, one; dynamiting a store, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, one; Kansas, one; Kentucky, one; Ohio, one; Texas, one."

Jackson, Miss., News
Sunday, July 3, 1932

THE LYNCHING RECORD

Figures prepared at Tuskegee Institute show that five lynchings took place in the United States during the first six months of the current year, which is identically the same number recorded for the first six months of 1931.

Mississippi passed through the period without a lynching. Kansas, Florida, Kentucky, Texas and Ohio had one each. Please note that two of the events were above the Mason and Dixon line.

Of the persons lynched two were white and three colored. Criminal assault provoked two of the events, and murder, threatening workers and dynamiting a store one each.

During the period of six months there were thirteen instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
Tuesday, July 5, 1932

Saved From Lynching

In a report on lynchings from the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute occurs this encouraging paragraph:

"During the first six months of 1932 there were thirteen instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in Northern and Western states and eleven in Southern states. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the four other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; thus a total of eighteen persons, five whites and thirteen negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs."

One is not prepared to exculpate officers of responsibility for the five lynchings that occurred in the first six months of this year. The record compares with thirty persons lynched in the first six months of 1922, ten years ago. Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Texas each had one lynching this year. But for the action of the Alabama authorities five negroes would have been lynched at the same time. This is the Scottsboro incident about which Eastern meddlers have been spreading sinister propaganda.

The Tuskegee report is evidence that in the South officers are doing their duty in protecting prisoners from mobs. The instances are not specified, but probably one of them is a Colleton case in which the authorities forestalled any purpose to lynch by spiriting two negroes to the penitentiary in Columbia. The Southern newspapers have performed a full duty in denouncing lynchings and lynchers.

Asheville, N. C., Times
Monday, July 4, 1932

The Inglorious Roll

LYNCHINGS in the states, for the first half of 1932, numbered five, which is the same number of lynchings for the first six months of 1931, according to the statistical report from Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

Comparisons are not always as valuable as they seem, but ten years ago there were 30 lynchings in the first six months of the year—1922.

Yet, adding strength and substance to the comparison, the report finds that in eleven Southern states and in two Northern and Western states, officers of the law this year have prevented lynchings by prompt and bold action in the face of threatened mob work.

The detailed information once more shows forth the truth that mobs do not confine their activities to one race, or to vengeance for one crime. Two white and three colored persons were victims of the mob. The crimes included murder, threatening men and dynamiting a store. The states enrolled in the lynch list are Florida, Kansas, Kentucky. Ohio and Texas.

Greenville, Miss. Times
Tuesday, July 5, 1932

LNCHINGS

There were five lynchings in the United States during the first six months of this year. Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Texas each had one lawless execution. This is the same number that were lynched during the first six months of last year and compares with thirty lynched in 1922, or ten years ago.

Lynching is no longer confined to the South, nor to the negro race. This year's victims were two white and three negro. During this same six months there were thirteen instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in Northern and Western states and eleven in the South again showing that the South is for law and order.

This is a most credible showing, especially since Mississippi has a clean slate so far. If the law enforcement bodies continue to function as they have during the past six months they will have a great part in holding the present wholesome position we have.

Five Lynchings In First 6 Mos.

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TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 8 (Special)—There were five lynchings in the United States during the first six months of the current year, according to reports compiled by the department of records and research at the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute here.

Plaindealer

Of the persons lynched, two were white and three colored. The lynchings occurred in Florida, Kansas Kentucky, Ohio and Texas.

7-8-32

There was the same number of lynchings during the first six months of 1931. Ten years ago, in 1922, there were thirty persons lynched during the first six months of the year.

Topeka Kansas

During the first six months of 1932 there were thirteen instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in notherrn and western states and eleven in southern states. In nine of these instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in four other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Thus a total of eighteen person, five white and thirteen colored, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

THE LYNCHERS' RECORD

Star of Zion

Dear Sir: I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, I find that there were five lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

7-7-32

Charlotte, N.C.

During the first six months of 1932 there were [illegible]ces in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in Northern and Western States and 11 in Southern States. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented in the four other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 2 were white and 3 were Negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State were as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1: Texas, 1.

Very truly yours,
R. R. Moton, Principal.

Five Persons Lynched In Past Six Months

Age
N. Y. City. N.Y.

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Dr. Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute has released the following lynching record for the first six months of 1932 as compiled by the Department of Records and Research There were 5 lynchings in the first six months, the same as there for the first six months in 1931.

7/9/32

Thus far this year there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, 2 were in northern and western states and 11 in southern states. Of the persons lynched 2 were white and 3 were Negroes. The states in which these lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio 1; Texas, 1.

LYNCHING IS ON THE DECREASE

Baltimore, Md.
Afro American

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala.—During the first six months of the year there were five lynchings as against thirty lynchings during the same period in 1922, a decade ago, according to the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute.

7/9/32

The number is the same as the number of lynchings during the same period in 1931. There were thirteen instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings and in nine of these instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In four other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers and a total of 18 persons, 5 white and 13 colored were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched, two were white and three were colored, with the following offenses: rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamyting a store, 1 person.

The following states joined the lynching league with one lynch blot each: Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio, and Texas.

Lynchings-1932

Reports on Sent Press.

Jan.-June

3833

MANKATO, MINN.
FREE PRESS
JUL 6 1932

Record of Lynchings

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, there were five lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in northern and western states and 11 in southern states. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the four other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, five whites and 13 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched two were white and three were Negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, one; rape, one; murder, one; threatening men, one; dynamiting a store one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, one; Kansas, one; Kentucky, one; Ohio, one; Texas, one.

While the record indicates that we are merely holding our own with regard to lynchings that is really progress in times such as these. In a period of depression and unemployment hates and prejudices, particularly racial prejudices often flame more fiercely than in normal periods. To hold our own in such time is really to make progress.

WILMINGTON, DEL.
EVERY EVENING
JUL 8 1932

FIVE LYNCHINGS SINCE JANUARY 1.

During the first six months of this year, according to records kept by Tuskegee Institute, five persons were lynched in the United States. This is the same number as was recorded for the first six months of 1931. The South contributed all but one of these tragedies committed so far this year, Ohio being the only northern state to offend. The other states where there were lynchings were Florida, Kansas, Kentucky and Texas.

Two of the victims, in this instance, were white men, while three were Negroes. This indicates that it is the gravity of the crime, more than race prejudice, that has been provoking such summary action on the part of angry mobs.

While there has been no improvement this year over last, so far as numbers go, there is comfort in the knowledge that in the past decade there has been marked improvement. In the first six months of 1922 there were 30 lynchings.

ANNISTON, ALA.
STAR
JUL 6 1932

LYNCHING RECORD SAME AS LAST YEAR

The lynching record for the first half of 1932 as compiled by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Institute shows no improvement over that of last year, five having been reported for the six months period of each year. But when we go back and compare the record of the first six months of 1931 and 1932 with the total for the same period in 1922 we find that we have advanced far in a decade in the matter of getting away from the disgraceful practice of mob killings. In the first half of 1922, ten years ago, 30 lynchings were recorded.

According to the Tuskegee figures there were 13 instances in the first half of this year in which officers of the law prevented attempted lynchings. Of these frustrated attempts two were in Northern and Western states and eleven were in the South. In nine instances prisoners were removed or the guard augmented to thwart the mobs, while in the other four cases force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 18 persons were saved from the hands of mobs, five of them being white men and 13 negroes.

Of those lynched two were white and three were negroes, it is stated. The crimes with which they were charged were attempted criminal assault, criminal assault, murder, threatening men and dynamiting a store, no two being accused of the same offense.

One lynching was recorded in Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Texas. No state reported more than one, it will be noted from these figures, which is in contrast to some years in the past when several occurred in the same state.

Alabama again came through with a clear record, for which our citizenship is to be congratulated.

COLUMBUS, O.
OHIO STATE JOURNAL
JUL 6 1932

Lynching Record.

Editor:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, I find that there were five lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is 10 years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in northern and western states and 11 in southern states. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the four other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, five whites and 13 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched two were white and three were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON.
Principal, Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.

Millen, Ga., News
Thursday, July 7, 1932

LYNCHING RECORD FOR SIX MONTHS

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 2 were in Northern and Western States and 11 in Southern States. In 9 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the 4 other instances force was used to repel the would be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas. 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio. 1; Texas, 1.

Concord, N. C. Tribune
Monday, July 11, 1932

OUR LYNCHING RECORD.

According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute there were five lynchings in the United States in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1931, but is 25 less than the total of 30 for the first six months of 1922.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in northern and western states and 11 in southern states. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the four other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, five whites and 13 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched two were white and three were negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, one; rape, one; murder, one; threatening men, one; dynamiting a store, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, one; Kansas, one; Kentucky, one; Ohio, one; Texas, one.

MACON, GA.
NEWS

JUL 8 1932

1932 LYNCHING RECORD

Progress in suppression of lynching is reflected more in the number of instances in which lynching is prevented than in any decrease in the number of lynchings occurring this year.

In the first half of the year 1932 there were five lynchings in the United States. That was exactly the number occurring in the corresponding period in 1931. There were 13 instances in which attempts at lynching were frustrated by officers of the law during the first six months of the present year. The figures are supplied by Dr. R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee institute in Alabama.

Nearly three times as many attempted lynchings were thus prevented as there were lynchings. That speaks well for the officers of the law, and indicates what an important part they can play and are playing in putting an end to the lynching crime. Public commendation is due every officer of the law who served in frustrating outbreaks of mob violence during the period mentioned.

Public sentiment against the evil of lynching is the final cure. In those communities where the people are strongly opposed to mob action, it is seldom there is an instance of mob action. There is need for education of the public in some parts of the county against lynching.

Officers of the law can help along that education by letting it be known whenever occasion arises that they will tolerate no interference with them in their duties in protecting prisoners.—Houston Post.

GREENSBORO, N. C.
RECORD

JUL 4 1932

This Year's Lynchings.

It is highly significant to observe in the report on lynchings, compiled by President Moton, of Tuskegee Institute, that during the first six months of this year—a period during which five persons were lynched—thirteen were saved from violence by officers who had the will and the courage to do their duty in protecting their prisoners.

In nine of the 13 instances cited, prisoners were removed to safety, or the guards were augmented. In the other four, force was used to repel mobs. This feature of the report is encouraging, but it is not so to note that mob crimes thus far during the current year have been nearly as prevalent as during last year. Six were lynched during the first six months of 1931, whereas, as noted, the number lynched during the corresponding period of this year was five.

The lynching record of the last six months shows victims met death at the hands of mobmen in Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Texas; that two of the persons lynched were white and three were negroes.

Thus, again, it is shown that mobmen now recognize no state or sectional bounds, neither do they recognize racial differences.

PRESS
MIDDLETOWN, CONN.

JUL 8 1932

LYNCHINGS LESS.

More progress is noted. Lynchings continue to keep at a low figure. How far then have been reduced in 10 years is indicated by the report for the first six months of the current year, coming from the Tuskegee Normal, an Industrial institute. But five were noted as compared with thirty for the first six months of 1932.

That this decline has been fairly steady from those days when such lawlessness took as high as 255 lives in one year, is in evidence. It is further noted that of the five this year, two were whites and two were in northern states, Ohio and Kansas.

The report reveals such a marked change for the better that those who have worked to wipe out this blot on law and order have every reason to feel encouraged.

Ocilla, Ga., Star
Thursday, July 7, 1932

FIVE WERE LYNCHED IN FIRST SIX MONTH OF 1932

Tuskegee Institute gives out the following information about lynchings during the first six months of 1932.

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, I find that there were 5 lynchings in th efirst six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1931. In 1932, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 2 were in northern and western states and 11 in southern states. In 9 of the instances the prisoners were removed of the guards augmented in the 4 other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; thus 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 negroes, were saved from death at the honds of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 2 were white and 3 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

Newberry, S. C. Herald & News
Friday, July 8, 1932

Five Lynched First 6 Months

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, that there were 5 lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings . Of these two were in Northern and Western states and 11 in Southern states. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the four other instances force was used to repel the would be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, five whites and 13 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched two were white and three were negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dryamiting a store, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

LOS ANGELES, CAL.
RECORD

JUL 6 1932

5 LYNCHED IN 1932

Lynchings for the first six months of 1932 totaled five, the same number as for the first six months of 1931. In the first period this year lynchings of 18 persons, of whom 13 were Negroes, were prevented, records of Tuskegee Institute show.

Dalton, Ga., N. Ga. Citizen
Thursday, July 7, 1932

The 1932 Lynching Record

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, it is announced that there were only five lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were thirty persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were thirteen instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in northern and western states and eleven in southern states. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the four other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; thus a total of eighteen persons, five whites and thirteen negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched two were white and three were negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, one; rape, one; murder, one; threatening men, one; dynamiting a store, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, one; Texas, one; Kentucky, one; Ohio, one; Texas, one.

It will be noticed that Georgia is on the honor roll of states where no lynchings have occurred.

FOND DU LAC, WIS.
REPORTER

JUL 5 1932

NO BETTER

Reports reveal that lynching parties continue to be popular in this country. The records for the first six months of this year show five lynchings or the same number reported for a similar period last year.

Thirteen attempted lynchings have been frustrated so far this year. Two of these were in the Northern and Western states and the others south of the so-called Mason-Dixon line.

Lynchings, wherever they occur, are indicative of but one thing—mob rule or open organized defiance of law and order. The same applies to repeated gang killings throughout the country.

Lynchings-1932

Reports on, Sent Press.

3834

Jan.-June.

3834

NEW YORK SUN

JUL 7 1932

The Lynching Record for the First Six Months of 1932.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, I find that there were 5 lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is, ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, 2 were in Northern and Western States and 11 in Southern States. In 9 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the 4 other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 2 were white and 3 were Negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., July 5.

WACO, TEX.
NEWS-TRIBUNE

JUL 5 1932

1932 Lynching Record

Progress in suppression of lynching is reflected more in the number of instances in which lynching was prevented than in any decrease in the number of lynchings occurring.

In the first half of the year 1932 there were five lynchings in the United States. That was exactly the number occurring in the corresponding period in 1931. There were 13 instances in which attempts at lynching were frustrated by officers of the law during the first six months of the present year. The figures are supplied by Dr. R. M. Moton, principal of Tuskegee institute in Alabama.

Nearly three times as many attempted lynchings were thus prevented as there were lynchings. That speaks well for the officers of the law, and indicates what an important part they can play and are playing in putting an end to the lynching crime. Public commendation is due every officer of the law who served in frustrating outbreaks of mob violence during the period mentioned.

Public sentiment against the evil of lynching is the final cure. In those communities where the people are strongly opposed to mob action, it is seldom that there is an instance of mob action. There is need for education of the public in some parts of the country against lynching.

Officers of the law can help along that education by letting it be known whenever occasion arises that they will tolerate no interference with them in their duties in protecting prisoners.—Houston Post.

AMBRIDGE, PA.
CITIZEN

JUL 5 1932

LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee Institute reports but five lynchings during the first six months of 1932 as compared with 30 in the first six months of 1922, ten years ago. But there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynching as by repeling mobs or spiriting prisoners to safer places.

Of the five persons lynched, two were white and three negro. The lynchings occurred in Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio, and Texas with the indication from this that the south is fast losing its reputation for taking the law into its own hands, and that the northern states are now but little head of them.

Mob rule is to be regretted, but its cause is to be regretted more. And usually the cause is the fear of the people that the law of the land will not measure out prompt and just punishment.

There can be no study of the lynchings in a country without also a study of the law enforcement of the states in which they occur. Prompt and efficient punishment of all crimes will do more than anything else to do away with lynching by doing away with the desire on the part of the public to see that prompt punishment is meted out.

Views Of Other Editors

Courier

7-16-32

Pittsburgh

1932 LYNCHING RECORD

Progress in suppression of lynching is reflected more in the number of instances in which lynching is prevented than in any decrease in the number of lynchings occuring this year.

In the first half of the year 1932 there were five lynchings in the United States. That was exactly the number occuring in the corresponding period in 1931. There were 13 instances in which attempts at lynching were frustrated by officers of the law during the first six months of the present year. The figures are supplied by Dr. R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.

Nearly three times as many attempted lynchings were thus prevented as there were lynchings. That speaks well for the officers of the law, and indicates what an important part they can play and are playing in putting an end to the lynching crime. Public commendation is due every officer of the law who served in frustrating outbreaks of mob violence during the period mentioned.

Public sentiment against the evil of lynching is the final cure. In those communities where the people are strongly opposed to mob action, it is seldom that there is an instance of mob action. There is need for education of the public in some parts of the country against lynching.

Officers of the law can help along that education by letting it be known whenever occasion arises that they will tolerate no interference with them in their duties in protecting prisoners. — From The Houston (Texas) Post.

TALLADEGA, ALA.
DAILY HOME

JUL 8 1932

LYNCHING RECORD
SAME AS LAST YEAR

The lynching record for the first half of 1932 as compiled by the Department of Records and Research at Tuskegee Institute shows no improvement over that of last year, five having been reported for the six months period of each year. But when we go back and compare the record of the first six months of 1931 and 1932 with the total for the same period in 1922 we find that we have advanced far in a decade in the matter of getting away from the disgraceful practice of mob killings. In the first half fo 1922, ten years ago, 30 lynchings were recorded.

According to the Tuskegee figures there were 13 instances in the first half of this year in which officers of the law prevented attempted lynchings. Of these frustrated attempts two were in Northern and Western states and eleven were in the South. In nine instances prisoners were removed or the guard augmented to thwart the mobs, while in the other four cases force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 18 persons were saved from the hands of mobs, five of them being white men and 13 negroes.

Of those lynched two were white and three were negroes, it is stated.

The crimes with which they were charged were attempted criminal assault, criminal assault, murder, threatening men and dynamiting a store, no two being accused of the same offense.

One lynching was recorded in Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Texas. No state reported more than one, it will be noted from these figures, which are in contrast to some years in the past when several occurred in the same state.

Alabama again came through with a clear record, for which our citizenship is to be congratulated.—Anniston Star.

GREENSBORO, N. C.
RECORD

JUL 7 1932

The Lynching Record

Five lynchings during the first half of this year as compared with six during the same period last year is the record compiled by Dr. R. R. Moton, of Tuskegee institute. The encouraging feature of the report lies in the fact that during the first six months of this year, 13 persons were saved from mob violence by officers who had both the will and the courage to do their duty.

In nine instances, prisoners were removed to a place of greater safety or the number of guards increased. In the other four, force was used to repel mobs. The record of the past six months shows lynchings in Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Texas, and that two of the five persons lynched were white, three colored.

The Tuskegee records are regarded as authoritative, because of the clear definition made of lynching. It does not include miscellaneous killings, grudge fights, or even the murder of those suspected of crime. In its present acceptation a lynching is an attack on the law itself, usually an effort on the part of a mob to take a prisoner away from the duly constituted officers, and to assume the functions of court, jury and executioner.

Several interesting conclusions are to be drawn from these figures. For they show that lynching is not limited to the southern states, nor are its victims limited to one race. More striking is the fact that crimes of this sort have ceased with suspicious suddenness when state authorities have vigorously prosecuted those who have incited mobs to violent action.

The evidence is plain that lynching can be completely stamped out, where the people have any confidence in their courts, if the officers of the law will do their duty, and if where mob violence occurs, there is prompt and sure punishment for those who presume to take the law into their own hands.—Roanoke (Va.) World-News.

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5 Lynchings Recorded for Six Months

Defender

7-16-32

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., July 15.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research, there have been five lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, 10 years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

Chicago.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in northern and western states and 11 in southern states. In nine instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the four other instances forces were used to repel the would-be lynchers, thus a total of 18 persons, five whites and 13 Negroes, were saved from the mobs.

Of the persons lynched two were white and three Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1. The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

This does not include the many Race men and women who are murdered in the South by individual whites. If these were added the list would reach over one hundred and fifty for the first six months.

Oklahoma City, Okla.
OKLAHOMAN

JUL 9 1932

The Year's Lynching Record

EXACTLY as many lynchings came to shame the country in the first six months of 1932 as disgraced the country in the first six months of 1931. Five times in the current year men have been murdered by lawless mobs. Two of these murders were committed north of the Mason and Dixon line and one in Kentucky. One in Florida and one in Texas were the contributions to mob lawlessness by the deep south.

During the opening six months of the year 18 lives were saved from mob passion by resolut officers. If all officers had only been equally resolute, there would have been no lynchings at all. If there is anything encouraging at all in the disquieting story, it is the fact that peace officers are becoming more and more determined to prevent mob violence and that the determination of officers usually is sufficient to deter the mob.

Just a few years ago any one of numerous states produced as many lynchings in a single month as the entire country now produces in a year. Most of the states now report no lynchings at all. Marked progress has been made in the crusade to end the crime of lynching entirely. The end will be reached when none but resolute and trustworthy men are charged with the duty of preserving the peace and enforcing the law.

OBSERVER

Northport, N. Y

JUL 8 1932

Lynching Statistics

Editor Northport Observer:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, I find that there were 5 lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings Of these 2 were in Northern and Western States and 11 in Southern States. In 9 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the 4 other instances force was used to repel the would be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 2 were white and 3 were Negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape 1, rape 1, murder 1, threatening men 1, dynamiting a store 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Florida 1, Kansas 1, Kentucky 1, Ohio 1, Texas 1.

Very truly yours,

R. R. Moton,
Principal
Tuskegee (Ala.) Normal and
Industrial Institute

BROWNWOOD, TEX.
BULLETIN
JUL 5 1932

Six Months, Five Lynchings

DURING the first six months of this hectic year of depression and unrest there were only five lynchings in the entire United States, according to figures compiled at the Tuskegee Normal Institute, the great southern institution for the education of negroes, in Alabama. There was one lynching in each of the five states, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Texas, and two of the victims were white men. The figures are especially interesting when compared with the record of thirty persons, almost all of them negroes, lynched during the first half of 1922. The terrible record for that year, it is recalled, was directly attributable to the influence of a masked organization which was flourishing at that time all over the country and especially in the South.

Of interest in connection with the report that there were only five lynchings during the past six months is the fact that at least thirteen lynchings were prevented by officers of the law, either by removal of prisoners, increasing the guards or employing armed force in resisting mob attempts. In all likelihood this attitude on the part of the officers of the law, especially in Southern states, is largely responsible for the improved lynching record for the year.

If similar progress could be made in the prosecution of members of mobs, the lynching evil could soon be stamped out. Unfortunately, it is extremely difficult to convict members of lynching parties, even though their guilt seems to be clearly established.

CONCORD, N. C.
TRIBUNE
JUL 11 1932

OUR LYNCHING RECORD.

According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute there were five lynchings in the United States in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1931, but is 25 less than the total of 30 for the first six months of 1922.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in northern and western states and 11 in southern states. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the four other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, five whites and 13 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched two were white and three were negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, one; rape, one; murder, one; threatening men, one; dynamiting a store, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, one; Kansas, one; Kentucky, one; Ohio, one; Texas, one.

NORFOLK, VA.
VIRGINIAN PILOT
JUL 11 1932

1932's Lynching Trend

Tuskegee Institute's semi-annual report on lynching shows that for the first six months of 1932 five persons were lynched in the United States. Three of them were Negroes. One of the five was charged with rape and a second with attempted rape. The other three were charged (but had not been convicted) with threatening men, dynamiting a store, and committing murder. Three of these lynchings were in the South, in Texas, Florida, and Kentucky. The other two were in Kansas and Ohio. During the same period there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, and thus, according to the Institute's findings, "a total of 18 persons, five white and 13 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs."

In virtually all details this report accords with the normal progress which in recent years has brought lynching more definitely under social and legal control. The number of lynchings is the same as in the first half-year of 1931, and suggests that the current year's total of mob-murders will coincide closely with the pronounced trend since 1928. Three of the last four years have seen lynchings held to 11 or less. The other year, 1930, is still a mystery. Twenty-one persons were lynched that year, and no reasonable explanation has been offered as to why it should be so much out of line.

The evidence now is impressive that economic conditions can not be held accountable for pronounced changes in the lynching rate. Both in relatively prosperous and in markedly difficult years, the number of lynchings has been about the same. More important is the question of what is needed to reduce the number below the level where it has now rested for four years (with the aforementioned 1930 excepted). With that year thrown out, the number of lynchings is running annually at about 10 or 11. That is a vast improvement over a decade ago. But the persistence of those figures over several years suggests that still greater pressure is necessary to continue the improvement.

Light
Waxahachie Tex
JUL 3 1932

LYNCHING RECORD SAME AS FOR THE YEAR 1931—

Are we making any progress toward ending the lynchings of both blacks and white in the United States, letting justice prevail in the courthouses as it should. There have been the same number of persons killed by mobs the first six months of this year as there were in the same period for 1931.

R. R. Morton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute says, "I find there were 5 lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1931. In 1932, that is ten years ago, there were 30 per sons lynched in the first six months of the year.

"During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 2 were in Northern and Western States and 11 in Southern States. In 9 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the 4 other instances force was used to repel the would be lynchings; thus a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched 2 were white and 3 were Negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape ,1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

"The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Florida. 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas 1."

When it's all said and done river-bottom trials are out of place in American life. Lynchings are a blot upon the good name of the country and should be abolished.

Lynchings - 1932

Reports on, Sent Press.

3835

Jan. - June.

TUSKEGEE REPORTS FIVE LYNCHINGS FOR FIRST HALF OF YEAR

Reporter

Tuskegee Institute, Ala.—Special.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of Records and Research, there were 5 lynchings the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of that year.

Birmingham Ala

Officers Prevent Many Lynchings

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 2 were in Northern and Western States and 11 in Southern States. In 9 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the 4 other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynching; thus a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

7/9/32

Of the persons lynched, 2 were white and 3 were Negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

The States in which lynching occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

LISTS 5 LYNCHINGS IN FIRST 6 MONTHS

Amsterdam News

TUSKEGEE, July 4.—According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Dr. R. R. Moton, principal, finds that there were five lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of the previous year. Ten years ago, 1922 to be exact, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of that year.

N. Y. City N.Y.

Officers of the law prevented lynchings in 13 instances in the first six months of this year. Of these two were in northern and western states, while 11 were in southern states. The states in which the lynchings occurred are Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

7/[illegible]/32

CANTON, O.
REPOSITORY

JUL 4 1932

FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1932 BRING 5 LYNCHINGS IN U. S.

By The Associated Press.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 3.—Five lynchings occurred during the first six months of 1932, Dr. R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee institute, reported today. This compares with six for the similar period last year.

The report showed lynchings occurred in Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Texas.

Two of the persons lynched were white and three were Negroes.

EL DORADO, KANS.
TIMES

JUL 4 1932

THE LYNCHI

The country's lynching record, while no better than a year ago, has remained at a low level. There were five instances in which Judge Lynch ruled during the first six months of 1932, being the same number as in a similiar period for 1931. By comparison, in the first six months of 1922—ten years ago—thirty persons were lynched. The enumeration is made by the Tuskegee Institute.

Kansas got on the black list for this period. The other states reporting lynchings were Florida, Kentucky, Ohio, and Texas. Two of the victims were white and three were negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1. The last two named come under the head of trivial offenses.

The brightest portion of the record is that during the 6-months' period, thirteen instances occurred in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. And the best part of that was that eleven of the number were in Southern States, which are popularly supposed to be more addicted to lynching than other sections of the country. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the other four instances, force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Thus, a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

All of which goes to show that officers with guts can stop lynchings, in a majority of cases, if they have the will to do so.

ATHENS, GA.
BANNER HERALD
[illegible]

NO INCREASE IN LYNCHINGS MADE FIRST HALF YEAR

In the department of records and research, at Tuskegee Institute, the records show that no increase was made this year in lynchings for the first six months of 1932 from that of 1931.

The number of lynchings for the first six months this year was five. Of the persons lynched two were white and three were Negroes. The following states had one lynching in each: Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio, and Texas. The offenses charged were two for attempted rape, one for murder, one for threatening, and one for dynamiting a store.

Ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of 1922. Although there were only five lynchings in the first 6 months of 1932 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Through the removing of the prisoners or through the use of force by officers.

CHARLESTON, S. C.
NEWS

JUL 5 1932

Saved From Lynching

In a report on lynchings from the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute occurs this encouraging paragraph:

"During the first six months of 1932 there were thirteen instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in Northern and Western states and eleven in Southern states. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the four other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; thus a total of eighteen persons, five whites and thirteen negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs."

One is not prepared to exculpate officers of responsibility for the five lynchings that occurred in the first six months of this year. The record compares with thirty persons lynched in the first six months of 1922, ten years ago. Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Texas each had one lynching this year. But for the action of the Alabama authorities five negroes would have been lynched at the same time. This is the Scottsboro incident about which Eastern meddlers have been spreading sinister propaganda.

The Tuskegee report is evidence that in the South officers are doing their duty in protecting prisoners from mobs. The instances are not specified, but probably one of them is a Colleton case in which the authorities forestalled any purpose to lynch by spiriting two negroes to the penitentiary in Columbia. The Southern newspapers have performed a full duty in denouncing lynchings and lynchers.

News
Jackson Miss
JUL 3 1932

THE LYNCHING RECORD

Figures prepared at Tuskegee Institute show that five lynchings took place in the United States during the first six months of the current year, which is identically the same number recorded for the first six months of 1931.

Mississippi passed through the period without a lynching. Kansas, Florida, Kentucky, Texas and Ohio had one each. Please note that two of the events were above the Mason and Dixon line.

Of the persons lynched two were white and three colored. Criminal assault provoked two of the events, and murder, threatening workers and dynamiting a store one each.

During the period of six months there were thirteen instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings.

Lincolnton, N. C. Times
Thursday, July 7, 1932

Lynchings Are Very Scarce During First Six Months of Year

There were five lynchings in the United States during the first six months of 1932, according to a report based on the records in the department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institution in Alabama. It was reported that five lynchings also occured during the first six months of 1931. In 1922 there were 30 persons lynched.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 2 were in Northern and Western States and 11 in Southern States. In 9 of the instances the prisoners were removed or other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; thus a toal of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 2 were white and 3 were Negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

The states in which the lynchings occurred and the number in each State is as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

Hattiesburg, Miss. American
Tuesday, July 5, 1932

ENCOURAGING

Latest statistics concerning mob violence in this country are most encouraging. According to data compiled by R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute of Alabama there were five lynchings in this country in the first six months of this year. This number is the same as for the first half of last year.

How much progress has been made in curbing this crime of lynching in the last ten years appears from the facts that in 1922 there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months.

Continuing the report says:

"During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 2 were in Northern and Western states and 11 in Southern states. In 9 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the 4 other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched 2 were white and 3 were negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas 1."

Most encouraging in this report is the greater respect which officers of the law are showing for the obligations of their office. It was not always thus in this country. In the days of the past one frequently read of derelictions in duty by officers. Some conveniently absented themselves when mobs began to gather. Jailers put up little or no resistance. Mobs for a time threatened to usurp orderly government carried on through courts and their officers.

Decline in lynchings no doubt also is due to the change of the public attitude. Constant discussion of this question in the daily press, in magazines and public gatherings together with the positive positions taken by groups of citizens, men and women, have had a deterring effect.

All in Mississippi will be happy to note that the escutcheon of this state has not been besmirched by a lynching in the first six months of this year.

Lynching should be and can be abolished. Law and order must prevail.

Honea Path, S. C. Chronicle
Friday, July 8, 1932

Lynching Record First Six Months

The lynching record for the first six months nf 1932 as compiled and made public by the Tuskegee Institute is as follows:

There were five lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is 10 years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in lynchings. Of these two were in which officers of the law prevented northern and western states and 11 in southern states. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the four other instances force was used to repel the would be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched two were white and three were negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

NORWICH, CONN.
BULLETIN

JUL 4 1932

Lynching Record

Mr. Editor: I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. According to the records compiled at Tuskegee institue in the department of records and research, I find that there were five lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in northern and western states and 11 in southern states. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the four other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, five whites and 13 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched two were white and three were Negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

Very truly yours,
Principal.
R. R. MORTON,
Tuskeegee Institute, Alabama.
July 1, 1932.

LYNCHING FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS

7-2-32

According to records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, I find that there were 6 lynching in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number 6 for the first six months of 1931 In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 2 were in Northern and Western States and 11 in Southern States. In 9 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the 4 other instances force was used to repel the would be lynchers thus a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 2 were white and 3 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1. murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store 1.

The States in which lynching occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1: Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas 1.

FIVE PERSONS LYNCHED IN SIX MONTHS

Annapolis Recorder

Tuskegee Report Shows 3 Negores, 2 White Victims of Mob Murder

7/9/32.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 8.—There were five lynchings in the United States during the first months of 1932, according to records compiled in the Tuskegee Institute department of records and research

This number, says the report is the same as the number for the first six months of 1931.

In 1923, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months in the year.

3 Negroes 2 Whites

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 2 were in Northern and Western States and 11 in Southern States. In 9 of the instances the prisioners were removed or the guards augmented; in the 4 other instances force was used to repel the would be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 Negroes, were saved from death, at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 2 were white and 3 were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening murder, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

The State in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Florida, 1 Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1 Texas, 1.

LYNCHINGS IN 1932

To the Editor of The Forum:

Sir: I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. According to the records compiled at Tuskegee institute in the Department of Records and Research, I find that there were five lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in Northern and Western states and 11 in Southern states. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the four other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, five whites and 13 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of thepersons lynched two were white and three were negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal, Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, July 3.

TUSCALOOSA, ALA.
NEWS

JUL 4 1932

FIVE LYNCHINGS OCCUR IN FIRST HALF OF YEAR

Six In 1931, Dr. Moton Says In Semi-Annual Report

TUSKEGEE, Ala., July 4—(AP)—Five lynchings occurred during the first six months of 1932, R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee Institute, has reported. This compares with six for the similar period last year.

The report showed lynchings occurred in Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Texas.

Thirteen persons were saved from violence by officers, the report stated. In nine of the instances, the prisoners were removed or the guards sugmented. In the other four, force was used to repel the would-be lynchers.

Of the persons lynched, two were white and three were negroes.

GREENSBORO, N. C.
RECORD

JUL 2 1932

Only Five Persons Lynched This Year

Only five lynchings were reported in the United States in the first six months of this year, according to statistics compiled by Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute at Tuskegee, Ala., and received by the Record today.

There was one lynching in each of the following states: Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Texas.

Of the persons lynched two were white and three were negroes. The offenses were attempted criminal attack, criminal attack, murder, threatening men and dynamiting a store.

In 13 instances officers of the law prevented efforts of mobs to take possession of prisoners with the intent of lynching.

Lynchings-1932
6
Reports on, Sent Press

Jan. - June

3836

YOUNGSTOWN, O.
VINDICATOR
JUL 5 1932

The Lynching Record for the First Six Months of 1932

Tuskogee Institute, Ala., July 1.

Editor of The Vindicator, Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. According to the records compiled at Tuskogee Institute in the department of records and research, I find that there were five lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is, 10 years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in northern and western states and 11 in southern states. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the four other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, five whites and 13 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched, two were white and three were Negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape 1, rape 1, murder 1, threatening men 1, dynamiting a store 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida 1, Kansas 1, Kentucky 1, Ohio 1, Texas 1.

R. R. MOTON, Principal.

FT. MADISON, IA.
DEMOCRAT
JUL 6 - 1932

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

Dear Sir: I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, I find that there were 5 lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is 10 years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 2 were in northern and western states and 11 in southern states. In 9 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the 4 other instances force was used to repel the would be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 2 were white and 3 were Negro. The offenses charged were: attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

Very truly yours,

R. R. MOTON, Principal,
Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

COLUMBUS, O.
DISPATCH
JUL 4 1932

The Lynching Record, So Far

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, whose department of records and research keeps close track of the crime of lynching, reports but five cases of that crime within the limits of the United States, during the first six months of the current year. This is the same number as was reported for the first half of 1931.

How rapidly the situation has changed may be seen in the fact that 30 persons died at the hands of lynchers during the first half of 1922, only 10 years ago; and that record itself was small, as compared with the numbers reported only a few decades earlier.

The fact is that with improved public sentiment, lynching has now become only a sporadic form of murder, accounting for a very slight fraction of those whose lives are unlawfully taken. When mob violence threatens, officers of the law, in the large majority of cases, are now prompt in extending protection, and in the face of certain resistance, the mob dissolves.

In view of such facts as these, it is fortunate, we think, that congress has left the matter to an evidently improving public sentiment in the states, rather than to pass a measure of such doubtful constitutionality as the Dyer anti-lynching law.

Jefferson, Ga., Herald
Thursday, July 21, 1932

FIVE LYNCHINGS RECORDED FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1932

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, there were five lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

Zions Herald
Boston, Mass.
JUL 13 1932

Lynchings First Half of 1932

PRINCIPAL ROBERT R. MOTON of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute is rendering a valuable service in the field of race relations through his regular reports, released every six months, on the lynching situation in the United States. In a letter to the editor dated the first day of July, he gives the figures for the first six months of the year 1932. He says:

> According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, I find that there were 5 lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number, 5, for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.
>
> During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, 2 were in Northern and Western states and 11 in Southern states. In 9 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the 4 other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers.
>
> Of the persons lynched, 2 were white and 3 were Negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.
>
> The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

There is cause for rejoicing in the comparison of the figures for the first six months of 1922 with those for the same period in 1932. Slowly but surely, Christian ideals are gaining in power.

CHRONICLE
Reading - Mass.
JUL 8 1932

LYNCHINGS IN 1932

The following information concerns lynchings for the first six months of this year. According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research there were 5 lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 2 were in northern and western states and 11 in southern states. In 9 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented and in the 4 other instances force was used to repel the would be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 2 were white and 3 were negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

Montezuma, Ga., Georgian
Thursday, July 14, 1932

But Five Lynchings First Half of Year

According to a report furnished by R. R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, during the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in northern and western states and 11 in southern states. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the other instances force was used to rebel the would-be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 2 were whites and 3 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape 1; rape 1; murder threatening men 1, dynamiting a store 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida 1, Kansas 1, Kentucky 1, Ohio 1, Texas 1.

Madison, Ga., Madisonian
Friday, July 15, 1932

Five lynchings were reported in the United States in the first six months of 1932. Only one of these occurred in the south—in Florida. In thirteen cases efforts at lynching were prevented by quick work of officers.

Toccoa, Ga., Record
Thursday, July 14, 1932

Five Lynchings Recorded For First Six Months Of 1932

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, there were five lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

Camilla, Ga., Enterprise
Friday, July 8, 1932

FIVE LYNCHINGS IN U. S. FIRST 6 MONTHS OF '32

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Five lynchings occurred during the first six months of 1932, R. R. Moton, president of Tuskeegee Institute, reported recently. This compares with six for the similar period last year.

The report showed lynchings occurred in Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Texas.

Thirteen persons were saved from violence by officers, the report stated. In nine of the instances, the guards augumented. In the other four, force was used to repeal the would-be lynchers.

Of the persons lynched, two were white and three were negroes.

Dawson, Ga., News
Thursday, July 7, 1932

BUT FIVE LYNCHINGS FIRST HALF OF YEAR

TWO WERE IN THE NORTHERN STATES OF OHIO AND KANSAS, ONE IN KENTUCKY.

According to a report furnished The News by R. R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, during the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in northern and western states and 11 in southern states. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the o[illegible]ances force was used to rebel the [illegible] lynchers; thus a total of 18 pers[illegible] and 1[illegible] negroes, were saved from [illegible] th[illegible] hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 2 were whit[illegible] and 3 were negros. The offense[illegible] charged were attempted rape 1; rap[illegible] 1; murder threatening men 1, dynamiting a store 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida 1, Kansas 1 Kentucky 1 Ohio 1, Texas 1.

Atlanta Constitution Jnov31

Elberton, Ga., Star
Tuesday, July 5, 1932

NO INCREASE IN LYNCHINGS SO FAR

In the department of records and research, at Tuskegee Institute, the records show that no increase was made this year in lynchings for the first six months of 1932 from that of 1931.

The number of lynchings for the first six months this year was five. Of the persons lynched two were white and three were negroes. The following states had one lynching in each: Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Texas. The offenses charged were two for attempted rape, one for murder, one for threatening, and one for dynamiting a store.

Ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of 1922. Although there were only five lynchings in the first 6 months of 1932 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs, through the removing of the prisoners or through the use of force by officers.

Lumpkin, Ga., Journal
Friday, July 15, 1932

But Five Lynchings First Half Of Year

According to a report furnished the Journal by R. R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, during the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in northern and western states and 11 in southern states. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the other instances force was used to rebel the would-be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Bainbridge Ga.
Advance
July 15 - 1932

5 Lynchings In U. S. First 6 Monhs of '32

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Five lynchings occured during the first six months of 1932, R. R. Moton, president of Tuskeegee Institute, reported recently. This compares with six for the similar period last year.

The report showed lynchings occurred in Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Texas.

Thirteen persons were saved from violence by officers, the report stated. In nine of the instances, the guards augmented . In the other four, force was used to repeal the would-be lynchers.

Of the persons lynched, two were white and three were negroes.

Blakeley, Ga., News
Thursday, July 7, 1932

Figures on Lynching For First Six Months Of 1932 Are Given

According to records compiled by the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute, there were five lynchings in the United States during the first six months of 1932. This number is the same for the first six months of 1931. Ten years ago, in 1922, there were thirty persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which defenders of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, two were in Northern and Western States, and seven in Southern States. In nine of the instances, the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the other four instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; thus a total of eighteen persons, five whites and thirteen negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched, two were white and 3 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

The states in which the lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

Cartersville, Ga., News
Thursday, July 7, 1932

No Increase In Lynchings Made First Half Year

In the department of records and research, at Tuskegee Institute, the records show that no increase was made this year in lynchings for the first six months of 1932 from that of 1931.

The number of lynchings for the first six months this year was five Of the persons lynched two were white and three were negroes. The following states had one lynching in each: Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio, and Texas. The offenses charged were two for attempted rape, one for murder, one for thereatening, and one for dynamiting a store.

Although there were only five lynchings in the first six months of 1932 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Through the removing of the prisoners or through the use of force by officers.

Aiken, S. C., Journal & Review
Wednesday, July 13, 1932

LYNCHING RECORD FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1932

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 2 were in Northern and Western States and 11 in Southern States. In 9 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the 4 other instances force was used to repel the would be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 2 were white and 3 were Negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

Lynchings-1932

Reports on, Sent Press,— Editorial Comments.

Jan.- June.

3837

SAN ANTONIO, TEX.
EXPRESS

JUL 6 1932

A STRIKING COMPARISON OF LYNCHING RECORDS

In summarizing the lynching record for the first half of 1932, Dr. R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, contrasts the five mob crimes in that period to the 30 lynchings perpetrated during the first half of 1922. Thus it would appear that—though this year's showing is far from satisfactory—friends to law and order have occasion for encouragement over the progress achieved in ten years.

Happily, one sees reason for assuming that the advancement thus indicated is genuine and that it will continue. After the lynching-toll had dropped to 10 during 1929—a circumstance attributed to persistent educational work and, as a result, an awakened civic conscience—the country suffered a relapse in 1930, when 21 mob crimes were recorded. Last year's showing was a little better, but the mob claimed 13 victims.

A significant development in recent years is that several such murders have occurred outside of Judge Lynch's traditional domain. The 1930 report charged Indiana with two mob crimes; in 1931, Maryland and North Dakota suffered one each. Of the five lynchings so far this year, one was in Kansas and another in Ohio; in each case the victim was a white man. Three Southern States—Florida, Kentucky and Texas—are charged with one each.

Dr. Moton also reports that, by swift, courageous action in the face of threatened violence, law officers saved 18 other persons—including 13 negroes—from the mob. Practically speaking, such official courage remains society's principal bulwark against the lynching evil. The Commission on Interracial Co-operation, with headquarters in Atlanta, recognizes that fact in bestowing its annual medals. However, the churches, the schools and various civic agencies are building sentiment which ultimately will wipe out the atrocious condition.

The Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching—by its pronouncements repudiating the mob as "woman's protector"—has created a deep impression. Its educational work largely is credited with having effected last year's better showing. The Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching—a group of eminent men and women—has done equally effective work. Last spring the Women's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Church adopted as a major project for this year a campaign against lynching.

Thanks to those and related labors, Judge Lynch is definitely in retreat.

Tennessean
NASHVILLE

TENNESSEE

JUL 7 1932

The Lynching Record.

So far this year the country has maintained the gains made last year in the effort to put an end to lynchings.

According to records compiled by the Tuskegee Institute department of records and research as made public by R. R. Moton, president of the institute, five persons, two of them white and three of them negro, were lynched during the first six months of this year.

That is the number of lynchings which the country had during the first six months of last year, but is only a sixth of the total for the first six months of 1922.

So far this year there have been thirteen instances when officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in northern states and eleven were in southern states. In nine instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented and in the other four instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers.

States in which there have been lynchings are Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Texas, each state having one lynching.

Patriotic and law-abiding Tennesseans will take pride in the fact that this state is not included in the list and will make every effort to see that the law shall prevail and that when the year ends there will be no such black mark against the Volunteer state.

A lynching appeals to the most brutal instincts of man. Its effect upon a community is frequently worse than is the effect of the crime for which a man is lynched. And this damage to community morale is sometimes increased after the lynching by the discovery that the death of an innocent man has been taken.

It is seldom that a man guilty of a crime for which a hot-headed mob would lynch him escapes conviction once he is brought into court. Public sentiment is gradually but surely stamping out the administration of death by mobs to persons suspected of crimes.

We can be glad that the number of lynchings is decreasing, but as long as five men in six months are killed by cowardly mobs we can take no pride in our record of law administrations and humanitarianism as a great civilized nation.

SCRANTON. PA.
REPUBLICAN

JUL 6 1932

Prevented Lynchings

A decrease in lynchings is reported by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute the first six months of the present year.

It is a pity that the uncontrolled passions of men in this country impel them, frequently, to take the law into their own hands. Any change for the better is to be welcomed.

The report shows there were five lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This was the same number reported in the corersponding period of the previous year but a big drop from previous years when too many law officers winked at such crimes.

The new spirit was revealed when thirteen attempted lynchings were prevented by officers of the law the past six months.

Norfolk, Va. Pilot
Monday, July 11, 1932

14

1932's Lynching

Tuskegee Institute's semi-an[illegible]ort on lynching shows that for the first [illegible] months of 1932 five persons were lynched in the United States. Three of them were Negroes. One of the five was charged with rape and a second with attempted rape. The other three were charged (but had not been convicted) with threatening men, dynamiting a store, and committing murder. Three of these lynchings were in the South, in Texas, Florida, and Kentucky. The other two were in Kansas and Ohio. During the same period there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, and thus, according to the Institute's findings, "a total of 18 persons, five white and 13 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs."

In virtually all details this report accords with the normal progress which in recent years has brought lynching more definitely under social and legal control. The number of lynchings is the same as in the first half-year of 1931, and suggests that the current year's total of mob-murders will coincide closely with the pronounced trend since 1928. Three of the last four years have seen lynchings held to 11 or less. The other year, 1930, is still a mystery. Twenty-one persons were lynched that year, and no reasonable explanation has been offered as to why it should be so much out of line.

The evidence now is impressive that economic conditions can not be held accountable for pronounced changes in the lynching rate. Both in relatively prosperous and in markedly difficult years, the number of lynchings has been about the same. More important is the question of what is needed to reduce the number below the level where it has now rested for four years (with the aforementioned 1930 excepted). With that year thrown out, the number of lynchings is running annually at about 10 or 11. That is a vast improvement over a decade ago. But the persistence of those figures over several years suggests that still greater pressure is necessary to continue the improvement.

AMERICAN
HATTIESBURG, MISS.

JUL 5 1932

ENCOURAGING

Latest statistics concerning mob violence in this country are most encouraging. According to data compiled by R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute of Alabama there were five lynchings in this country in the first six months of this year. This number is the same as for the first half of last year.

How much progress has been made in curbing this crime of lynching in the last ten years appears from the facts that in 1922 there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months.

Continuing the report says:

"During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 2 were in Northern and Western states and 11 in Southern states. In 9 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the 4 other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the persons lynched 2 were white and 3 were negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1."

Most encouraging in this report is the greater respect which officers of the law are showing for the obligations of their office. It was not always thus in this country. In the days of the past one frequently read of derelictions in duty by officers. Some conveniently absented themselves when mobs began to gather. Jailers put up little or no resistance. Mobs for a time threatened to usurp orderly government carried on through courts and their officers.

Decline in lynchings no doubt also is due to the change of the public attitude. Constant discussion of this question in the daily press, in magazines and public gatherings together with the positive positions aken by groups of citizens, men and women, have had a deterring effect.

All in Mississippi will be happy to note that the escutcheon of this state has not been besmirched by a lynching in the first six months of this year.

Lynching should be and can be abolished. Law and order must prevail.

Chattanooga, Tenn.
TIMES

JUL 9 1932

The 1932 Lynching Record.

(Dalton Citizen.)

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee institute in the department of records and research, it is announced that there were only five lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were thirty persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were thirteen instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in northern and western states and eleven in southern states. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the four other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; thus a total of eighteen persons, five whites and thirteen Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched two were white and three were Negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, one; rape, one; murder, one; threatening men, one; dynamiting a store, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, one; Texas, one; Kentucky, one; Ohio, one; Texas, one.

It will be noticed that Georgia is on the honor roll of states where no lynchings have occurred.

Oakland Cal
TRIBUNE

JUL 6 1932

FIVE LYNCHINGS IN SIX MONTHS

To Editor TRIBUNE:

The lynching record for the first six months of 1932.

Dear Sir: I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, I find that there were 5 lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the lew prevented lynchings. Of these two were in northern and western states and eleven in southern states. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the four other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, 5 white and 13 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched, 2 were white and 3 were Negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, July 1.

YOUNGSTOWN, O.
VINDICATOR

JUL 10 1932

The Lynching Record

In the first half of the year there were five lynchings in the United States, the same number as reported for the first half of last year by Tuskegee Institute which for some years has kept records of the crime.

The situation has changed in ten years, due to public sentiment and greater effort upon the part of officers of the law to prevent mob violence. The number of lynchings so far this year is only a sixth of the number reported in the corresponding period a decade since, and the number then was lower than in preceding decades.

Federal legislation against lynching was proposed some time ago, but the Dyer anti-lynching bill failed. The prospect of federal action may have had something to do with arousing sentiment in the states, especially in some of the Southern States, against the taking of life without trial. Lynching mobs have disregarded the law that guarantees to every accused person a fari trial and frequently have further offended by taking prisoners away from officers.

In the last few years there have been many instances showing the courage of officers to face mobs and protect prisoners in their charge, and in some cases parties bent upon lynching have been broken up at the start.

It is to the credit of the public that sentiment has become so strong against mob violence and to the officers who frequently have faced death, determined to give protection to prisoners and let the law take its course.

CITIZEN
Dalton, Ga

JUL 7 1932

The 1932 Lynching Record

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the department of records and research, it is announced that there were only five lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were thirty persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were thirteen instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in northern and western states and eleven in southern states. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the four other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; thus a total of eighteen persons, five whites and thirteen negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched two were white and three were negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, one; rape, one; murder, one; threatening men, one; dynamiting a store, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, one; Texas, one; Kentucky, one; Ohio, one; Texas, one.

It will be noticed that Georgia is on the honor roll of states where no lynchings have occurred.

COLUMBUS, O.
OHIO STATE JOURNAL

JUL 12 1932

Civilization's Blot.

EACH six months officials of Tuskegee Institute make public the lynching record of this country, giving the facts without comment. That brief report reaches most newspaper offices in the country, as a part of the educational campaign against mob rule and lynch law. This year only five lynchings were recorded during the first half of 1932, the record being the same as the first half of 1931. One other feature this year was cheering and unusual. It told of courageous officers in 13 prisons who protected 18 prisoners from attacking mobs, defeating the mobs and saving the lives of the men. In so doing they helped decrease the number of lynchings in their states and in the nation and proved again that when courageous officers are in charge mobs can be defeated and the lives of men in prison can be made safe. The fine record should help encourage other officers to do their duty, even in the face of danger, and save for orderly trials under the law men under arrest, no matter what charges may have been made against them.

Unfortunately for Ohio it is listed among the states in which a lynching took place during the first half of the year. Kansas is another of the northern states in which there was a lynching. Florida, Texas and Kentucky contributed one each. Tuskegee Institute, with its great work among the colored people, has contributed enormously to the anti-lynching sentiment of the country by making its pitiful record public each half year. During the first six months of 1922 there were 30 men lynched in this country. The decrease to five last year and this year shows marked progress in the right direction, but so long as one life is sacrificed to mob fury in this country in any year, there still remains important work to be done in rousing public sentiment to stand behind and support the law and the courts.

ALBANY, N. Y.
KNICKERBOCKER PRESS

JUL 12 1932

LATEST LYNCH DATA

CONTINUING a useful practice in behalf of fair treatment for the Negro who is accused of a crime, Tuskegee Institute discloses that there were five lynchings in this country during the first six months of this year. This is the same number as for the corresponding period of 1931. But going back a decade, one finds that 30 persons were lynched during a half-year period.

Tuskegee's information is especially encouraging in disclosing that in 13 instances officers of the law prevented the mob from inflicting death on persons suspected of crime. By this action on the part of officials, 18 persons, five whites and 13 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards increased and in the four remaining cases force was used to repel the would-be lynchers.

Another encouraging aspect of this disgraceful business of lynching is that the instances are now widely scattered and no longer concentrated in a few states. So far this year, no state has been the scene of more than one case of lynching. Florida, Texas and Kentucky are alone in the South with a blot on their name and Kansas and Ohio in the Mid-West. As three of the five victims were Negroes and two were white, it is evident that this form of lawlessness is no longer a geographical or racial situation. That fact may help in its complete eradication. If officers of the law can prevent attempted lynchings in three-fourths of the instances where the mob attempts to override the usual procedure of justice, that should be evidence that similar firmness might be effective in preventing the few deaths which are inflicted in the barbarian manner which has made Americans hang their heads in shame. Meanwhile the forces of education and better understanding must be concentrated on the eradication of this national blight.

Jan.-June

3838

Lynchings-1932

Reports on, Sent Press,-Editorial Comments.

JAMESTOWN. N. Y.
MORNING POST

JUL 5 1932

HALF-YEAR'S LYNCHINGS.

Though the record of lynchings in the United States for the first six months of this year, as compiled by Tuskegee Institute, reveals five instances in which mobs carried out executions, there are other conditions which offer encouragement. The number was the same as in the corresponding period of 1931. While this indicates no decline in the execution of this form of lawlessness and signifies that a disposition still exists toward usurping the function of the law it is noted that within the opening half-year of 1922 thirty persons were lynched. Could that be relied on as conclusive evidence of the progress of a decade, it would be gratifying. While records vary from year to year, the general trend does appear to be downward.

The most cheering aspect of the situation is found in the number of instances in which prospective lynchings were prevented. There were thirteen cases in which officers of the law successfully defied mobs, two of them in Northern states and eleven in the Thus eighteen persons, five w and thirteen negroes, were preserved for orderly trial. Since the South has been the chief offender in the matter of lynchings, the number of instances in which mobs have been repelled indicates a growing determination in that section toward repressing a practice that has brought it discredit.

Of the lynchings in the last six months, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Texas contributed one each. In contemplation of this record it is difficult to find ground for condemning the South more than the North. Neither section has the right to point the finger of scorn at the other.

OUT OF THE RED AGAIN

What has been alluded to as the "lynching situation" is still improving—in the South, where special pains have been exercised to keep track of the violent acts sometimes rather arbitrarily listed as "lynchings." The condition has improved in recent years in Georgia. For the past period in which tab has been kept and reported, Georgia has had no "lynchings" charged to her—and there have ~~been~~ in the country as a whole but five persons "lynched."

These figures are the result of the work of the Tuskegee institution, which for some years has gathered the figures and published them—apparently covering the South with particular thoroughness and recording mainly the cases of negroes killed by mobs for alleged offenses or, sometimes, as the sequel showed, no offense at all. The figures have had the racial color.

They have not taken into account the increasing numbers of gangland "lynchings" which the Morning News holds should be included—for if men in a group, large or small, undertake to execute the law according to their own views, with no recourse to duly constituted law, and the victim is "executed," that is a "lynching," no matter where it occurs, whether the "mob" is a hundred or half a dozen, whether the victim is shot, hanged or burned, whether his crime was one against a woman or one against the purely fiscal gang regulations of organized city criminals.

However, the lynching record as compiled by its own standards and published by the Tuskegee Institute are always interesting. For the past six months they indicate progress toward the elimination of the savagery of lawless preemption of governmental functions by impassioned mobs. The statement is as follows:

> There were thirteen instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in Northern and Western states and eleven in Southern states. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the four other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; thus a total of eighteen persons, five whites and thirteen negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs. Of the persons lynched two were white and three were negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1. The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

Five victims in six months is a low record. It is no more than were "lynched," according to Tuskegee, in the first half of last year. The first semester of 1922 showed thirty persons "executed" by mobs. The situation is improving in respect to what is here called "lynching"—and Georgia is proud to have no "red" charged to it this year.

The Morning News insists, however, that the lawless execution of gangsters for violation of gangland "law," the putting on the spot by a small group armed with guns, is as inimical to law and order, as bad certainly in its premeditated, calculating, defiant manner of utter lawlessness—as any so-called "lynching" in a Southern state of one of one race by a crowd of infuriated men of another race for a passion crime.

Taking human life unlawfully is, save in extenuating circumstances, murder; and murder ought always to be punished in a manner commensurate with the enormity of the offense. Lynchers and gangland executioners are murderers.

HOUSTON, TEX
POST DISPATCH

JUL 3 1932

1932 Lynching Record

PROGRESS in suppression of lynching is reflected more in the number of instances in which lynching is prevented than in any decrease in the number of lynchings occuring this year.

In the first half of the year 1932 there were five lynchings in the United States. That was exactly the number occurring in the corresponding period in 1931. There were thirteen instances in which attempts at lynching were frustrated by officers of the law during the first six months of the present year. The figures are supplied by Dr. R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee institute in Alabama.

Nearly three times as many attempted lynchings were thus prevented as there were lynchings. That speaks well for the officers of the law, and indicates what an important part they can play and are playing in putting an end to the lynching crime. Public commendation is due every officer of the law who served in frustrating outbreaks of mob violence during the period mentioned.

Public sentiment against the evil of lynching is the final cure. In those communities where the people are strongly opposed to mob action, it is seldom that there is an instance of mob action. There is need for education of the public in some parts of the country against lynching.

Officers of the law can help along that education by letting it be known whenever occasion arises that they will tolerate no interference with them in their duties in protecting prisoners.

Savannah, Ga. News
Tuesday, July 5, 1932

OUT OF THE RED AGAIN

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Taking human life unlawfully is, save in extenuating circumstances, murder; and murder ought always to be punished in a manner commensurate with the enormity of the offense. Lynchers and gangland executioners are murderers.

Kansas City Call

7-15-32

Kansas City,

Five Lynchings In First Six Months of 1932

Tuskegee Institute department of records and research has recently released figures to the effect that there were five lynchings in the United States during the first half of 1932 there were five lynchings in the United States during the first half of 1931. Hence, 1932 tied 1931 in the matter of the number of lynchings for the first six months.

Five States Represented

Five states are represented in the Lynching League of the first half of 1932: Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio, Florida and Texas. Thus, it will be noted **that two lynchings occurred in northern states**, two in southern states and one in a border state.

Lynching Must Be Stopped!

Lynching is lawlessness running riot! It strikes at the very foundatio of orderly government, debases both those participating and the locality and state in which lynching occurs brings into disrepute the law enforcing agencies of government. shakes an destroys the confidence of many citizens who are anxious that law and order shall prevail. And Lynching Must Be Stopped– If the government **does not take a firm and unrelenting** stand in this matter, the time is not far distant when Judge Lynch and his law will be supreme. The life of a citizen—whether high or low—will not be safe either at home or away from home.

America Must Busy Herself
And Banish Lynching
And Punish Lynchers–

Lynching is a most grave evil—and America would do well to direct her attention to it. If America does not bestir herself and put down lynching and the rule of Mob Law, the Lynching Evil and Mob Law will put down America! It is pointed out here for sake of reminder that NO particular part of the American people can be safe so long as any part is unsafe. If the safety and well-being of **the humblest citizen is not protected.** is not what it should be, then that of the highest is not. Respect for law as relates to the humblest cannot be without beneficient effects as it respects the highest. Disrespect for law as it relates to the humblest citizen cannot be without malevolent effects upon the highest and most prominent citizen of the land. THAT WHICH GOES OVER THE DEVIL'S BACK MAY SOMETIMES COME UNDER HIS STOMACH. INDIFFERENCE TO THE INJUSTICES PERPETRATED UPON THE HUMBLEST CITIZEN CANNOT DO OTHER THAN ULTIMATELY ENCOURAGE AND BREED LYNCHERS AND LAWBREAKERS TO VENT THEIR SPLEEN AND WREAK THEIR FURY UPON THE OTHER CITIZENS OF THE LAND.

The recent epidemic of kidnapin and the like are but by-products o lawlessness which can be traced directly to indifference on the part of th law-enforcing agencies when the humble citizens were the victims of th lawbreakers. Now, the worm ha turned, and—at the hazard of employing the mixed metaphor—"The sho is on the other foot."

—o—

SOME SUGGSTIONS AS TO THE ERADICATION OF LYNCHING

—o—

Public Opinion a Powerful Weapon Either For Or Against Lynching

Public opinion against lynching wil go a long way toward the reductio and eradication of the Lynching Evil In final analysis, Public Opinion i the ultimate deterrent to the peculiarly American pastime of torturin to death of human beings by slow fires. mutilations and various other atrocious methods employed by lynchers.

The mere enactment of further laws against lynching will avail nothing except such laws as maybe enacted and those we already have are backed up by a healthy public opinion in favor of enforcing such laws. So long as there is absence of a desire on the part of the people to enforce any law, we are in a bad way. for no law can avail anything unless it is surpported by public opinion.

The Press, Pulpit, Schools Colleges, Homes Can Stop Lynching

The growth of public opinion against lynching is a matter of education. The church, press, schools, colleges and homes of America can each do much in the matter of educcating the people AGAINT lynching and its attendant evils. To the church—white and black, the former more than the latter, however—goes the greater responsibility for education of the public on lynching, as the church is the arbiter of moral standards and the conservator of human values. To teach "the sacredness and value of human personality. irrespective of class o creed," is one of the first duties of th church.

The press, schools, colleges an homes are also institutions which ca do untold good, and render invaluable services along the line of educating the public and stopping lynching. AND LYNHING WILL BE ERADICATED, WILL BE ELIMINATED ONLY IN THAT PROPORTION AS ALL THE PEOPLE **BECOME EDUCATED ON THE E**VILS OF LYNCHING AND THEN DECIDE THAT IT MUST NOT B ANY MORE! TOO LONG ALREADY HAS HERE BEEN CRUCIFIXION OF LAW AND GOVERNMENT AND MOCKERY O COURTS!!

ONLY 3 NEGROES VICTIMS OF MOB LAW; 2 WHITES

Three Organizations Differ Slightly On Number

Journal & Guide

Norfolk Va.

7/16/32

According to the records kept at Tuskegee Institute, two white and three Negroes have been victims of lynching in the United States for the first six months of 1932, but according to the records of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching, however, there were but four persons mobbed in this same period, two of each race.

Neither of the above agencies make mention of a lynching in Opelika, Ala., on June 28. In regard to this, the Associated Negro Press reports that a mob fired 150 bullets into the body of Charlie Miller after he had killed his wife and Sheriff W. S. Jones. Miller went on a shooting rampage after a quarrel over family gossip. He killed his wife and when the sheriff came to arrest him, he killed the sheriff too, and wounded two other persons.

Those That Lynched

The states in the Lynching League, according to the Tuskegee report are Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Texas, each of which had one to its discredit.

The Tuskegee figure, 5, is the same as the number of lynchings for the first six months of 1931, and 25 fewer than the number mobbed during a similar period in 1922, that is, ten years ago, and six fewer than five years ago.

"During the first six months of 1932," continues Tuskegee's report, there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these, two were in northern and western states and 11 in southern states. In nine of these instances, the prisoners were removed or the guard augmented;in the four other instances, force was used to repel the would-be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, five whites and 13 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store,1.

Hawaiian Case Omitted

The Massie Hawaiian case is omitted from the list of lynchings since that mob incident did not take place on the mainland of the United States, although it was perpetrated under the American flag and on American territory.

The highlight of the period is the fact that officers of the law increasingly continue to oppose lynchers and that it is becoming easier to have arrests made of the suspected lyncher.

This improvement is due largely to the efforts of the several interracial commissions scattered thruout the states and to the outspoken attitude of organizations like the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching.

After the Texas lynching on April 2, the following resolution was passed by the white women of Houston County, an example of others passed and made public in other sections of the country.

"We, the women of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopay Church, South, Zone One, Huntsville District, in session April 28, 1932, at Trinity, Texas do regret with our whole hearts the terrible blot that has been placed on our fair state by the recent lynching in Houston County, and especially do we deplore the fact that our own Zone was the scene of this regrettable deed, the first of its kind for 1932.

"We readily and sincerely wish to join with all the women of our church in doing everything in our power to prevent a recurrence of such a crime."

Ohio Lad Sentenced

In the Texas case five men charged with murder have been arrested and are out on bond; in the Kansas lynching although the law says that a sheriff who loses a prisoner is automatically suspended, A. A. Bacon, sheriff, was reinstated after 24 hours by Governor Harry Woodring.

The Kentucky outburst was an entire surprise and had as its victim a white man who four months before had been arrested for dynamiting a store; in Florida the victim was accused of shooting the police chief and was taken by a mob to the scene of the murder and burned.

At Ironton, Ohio, 16-year-old Louie McKee, white, one of six accused of taking Luke Murray, from the South Point jail, the night of June 7, and lynching him, was sentenced on a charge of delinquency to an indeterminate term (one to ten years). Murray's badly battered body was recovered from the Ohio river June 10.

First degree murder charges have been filed against the six men whom the state charges killed Murray and threw his body into the river. Murray had been jailed following an altercation with a white man in which he is alleged to have threatened the man with a pen-knife.

DAYTON, O.
JOURNAL

JUL 8 1932

Judge Lynch's Activities

After a disastrous beginning, it appears on the authority of Tuskegee Institute, which keeps tables on the subject, that the lynching record for this year may not be worse than last year's. In the first half of the year five persons were victims of mob violence, the same number as were lynched during the corresponding period of 1931. The record is disappointing to those who expect continuous improvement, but considering the start, is encouraging.

How far Americans have gone in keeping this menace to life and liberty in control is shown by comparisons between former and recent years. In the first half of 1922, only 10 years ago, 30 persons were put to death without their day in court. This year, it is indicated, not more than 10 and perhaps fewer will be done for by bands of lynchers, under the law of averages.

Public sentiment is now keen and alert against this crime and the direct responsibility placed on the shoulders of public officials who have hapless suspects for whose lives mobs rage, has helped to bring about substantial reduction in the number of these offenses. Some day, the crime will be almost unknown. It is the duty of the people of this generation to speed up that day of justice for all.

Lynchings-1932

Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.-June

Arcadia, Fla., Arcadian
Thursday, July 7, 1932

LYNCHINGS SHOW A DECREASE IN 1932

Record Disclose Only Five in Nation in First Six Months

But five lynchings in the United States are recorded for the first six months of 1932, as compared to thirty lynched in the first half of the year 1922—ten years ago. The number for the same period in 1931 was the same—five. This report is made by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, a negro institution at Tuskegee, Alabama.

During the first six months of the present year, the report states, there were thirteen instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in northern and western states, and eleven in southern states. In nine of the instances prisoners were removed or the guards augmented. In the four other instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Thus a total of eighteen persons, five whites and thirteen negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the five persons lynched two were white and three were negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape 1, rape 1, murder 1, threatening men 1, dynamiting a store 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred were one each in Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Texas.

Commerce, Ga., News
Thursday, July 7, 1932

No Lynchings in Georgia for First Six Months in 1932

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. According to the records compiled at Tuskeegee Institute in the department of records and research, find that there were 5 lynchings in the first six months of 1932. Thi number is the same as the number 5 for first 6 months of 1931. In 1922 that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 2 were in Northern or Western States and 11 in Southern States. In 9 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented in the 4 other instances force was used to repel the would be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 2 were white and 3 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1: threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

Very truly yours

R. R. Moton, Principal.

Dothan, Ala., Journal
Thursday, July 14, 1932

Lynchings Given Out First 6 Month, 1932

The following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, there were 5 lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 2 were in northern and western states ,and 11 in southern states. In 9 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the 4 other instances force was used to repell the would-be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 2 were white and 3 were negroes. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1: threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1: Texas, 1.

Butler, Ga., Herald
Thursday, July 14, 1932

According to the records compiled at Tuskeegee Institute there were five lynchings during the first six month of 1932, but not one of these occurred in Georgia.

Wm. D. Upshaw, [illegible]er member of Congress from [illegible] has been [illegible]

LOWELL, MASS.
COURIER-CITIZEN
JUL 19 1932

SIX MONTHS' LYNCHINGS.

[From the Providence Journal.]

The lynching record for the first six months of the current year in the United States is encouraging. During the half-year just closed there were five of these deplorable killings, which is just the number recorded for the same period last year. In 1922 there were thirty persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

We have been so informed by Major Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Institute, where a careful record is kept, and there is no reason to doubt the accuracy of the figures. This year's record might have been much worse had it not been for the vigilance and determined resistance of officers of the law. In the six months there were thirteen instances in which lynchings were prevented by officers. Two of these cases of successful resistance to mob violence were in the North and West, and eleven were in the Southerne States.

In four of these cases force was used to repel the would-be lynchers, while in nine instances the prisoners were removed to other places or the guards were augmented. Altogether the lives of eighteen persons were saved, five whites and thirteen Negroes. Of the persons who were lynched, two were white and three were Negroes. There was one case each in Ohio, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky and Texas.

The repetition of last year's record indicates a better condition in those sections of the country where such criminal violence has been much too common in the past. Even with no further decrease a reduction of eighty-three per cent in the half-year's lynching record within a ten-year period marks a substantial progress. It is due in part, as the facts have shown, to an increased official vigilance and a higher regard for duty on the part of those charged with maintaining public order, but there is also evidence of a waning of that spirit of mob violence which so often in past years has put dark blots on our civilization.

NEWS
Tuskegee Ala
JUL 21 1932

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF YEAR 1932

Dear Editor:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, I find that there were 5 lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these 2 were in Northern and Western States and 11 in Southern States. In 9 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the 4 other instances force was used to repel the would be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 13 Negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched 2 were white and 3 were Negros. The offense charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

Very truly yours,

R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

Milton, Fla., Gazette
Thursday, July 14, 1932

FIVE LYNCHINGS IN U. S. FOR FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1932 AS AGAINST THIRTY FOR 1922

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research there were five lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number five for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in Northern and Western states and 11 in Southern states. In 9 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the four other instances force was used to repel the would-be lyinchings; thus a total of 18 persons, 5 whites and 15 negroes were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched two were white and three were negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

Wrightsville, Ga., Headlight
Thursday, July 21, 1932

LYNCHINGS ON DECLINE, TUSKEGEE RECORDS SHOW

Records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, show that there were only five lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in Northern and Western States and eleven in Southern States. In nine of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented; in the four other instances force was used to repeal the would be lynchers; thus a total of 18 persons, five whites and thirteen negroes, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the persons lynched two were white and three negroes. The offense charged were attempted rape, one; rape, one; murder, one; threatening murder, one; dynamiting a store, one.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the murder in each State are as follows: Florida, one; Kansas, one; Kentucky, one; Ohio, one; Texas one.

Tuskegee Ala
JUL 21 1932

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF YEAR 1932

Dear Editor:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, I find that there were 5 lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

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Of the persons lynched 2 were white and 3 were Negros. The offense charged were attempted rape 1; rape, 1; murder, 1; threatening men, 1; dynamiting a store, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

Very truly yours,

R. R. MOTON,

Tuskegee, Ala., News
Thursday, July 21, 1932

THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF YEAR 1932

Dear Editor:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, I find that there were 5 lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

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The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1.

Very truly yours,

R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

NEWS
Tuskegee Ala
JUL 21 1932

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Dear Editor:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the first six months of this year. According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, I find that there were 5 lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as the number 5 for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, that is ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

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Very truly yours,

R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

Logan, W. Va., Democrat
Thursday, July 21, 1932

Lynching Records Show Improvement

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, there were five lynchings in the first six months of 1932. This number is the same as for the first six months of 1931. In 1922, ten years ago, there were 30 persons lynched in the first six months of the year.

During the first six months of 1932 there were 13 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Of these two were in northern and western states and 11 in southern states, In nine of the instances the prisoners were re-

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Of the persons lynched two were white and three were Negro. The offenses charged were attempted rape, one; rape, one; murder, one; threatening men, one; dynamiting a store, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Florida, one; Kansas, one; Kentucky, one; Ohio, one; Texas, one.

Birmingham, Ala. News
Thursday, January 5, 1933

The Lynching Record For The Past Year

Only eight lynchings were recorded in the United States in 1932. This is the smallest number for any year for which there is any record. The lowest previous record was for 1929, when there were 10 lynchings. The figures for other recent years are 16 in 1927, 11 in 1928, 21 in 1930, and 13 in 1931. When we remember that a few decades ago the number of lynchings in a single year simetimes ran into the hundreds, we cannot fail to be impressed with the progress that has been made in eradicating this most barbarous form of mob violence.

As long as there are any lynchings at all, it should not be said that a lynching record, however low, is something to be proud of. We can be really proud when the time comes that there are no lynchings at all. Nevertheless, the rather steady decline in this horrible practice is encouraging. It should not be long now before we shall see a year pass which will not be marred by illegal executions. And thereafter we may hope that a year in which lynchings take place will be the exception rather than the rule.

Of the eight persons lynched in 1932, six were Negroes and two were white men. One lynching each occurred in Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia. Seven of the victims were taken from the hands of the law, four being removed from jails and three taken from officers outside of jails. There were however, 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented mob violence, according to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute. This indicates a growing resistance to mobs on the part of officers of the law. The determination of officers to prevent lynchings must be a part of the effort to eradicate such acts of violence. But a more important part of the effort must be the continued and increasing influence of public opinion against the practice. It is not enough that officers of the law should prevent lynchings. The final victory of civilization over barbarism in this respect will come only when there are no longer any attempts at lynching.

Rome, Ga., News-Tribune
Tuesday, January 3, 1933

DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS

ONE of the gratifying developments of the past year was the decrease in lynchings, there being but eight outrages of this nature compared to 13 in 1931.

This improvement is due more to the alertness of officers of the law than to awakened public conscience, however, as the record shows that attempted lynchings were prevented in 31 cases.

Of these 31 triumphs of law over mob violence, 27 were in Southern states, and the record proves conclusively that officers of courage, who have a proper sense of obligation to their oaths, can prevent mob violence if they so desire. That increasing numbers are maintaining the dignity of the law is cause for gratification.

The states in which lynchings occurred during the past year were Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; Virginia, 1. Thus it will be seen that Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee and North and South Carolina were free from outrages of this nature, and that, too, is cause for satisfaction.

Columbia, Tenn., Herald
Thursday, January 5, 1933

FEWER MOB CRIMES.

One of the encouraging records of a generally drearily dull 1932 was the mark set in lynchings. Like everything else, lynchings declined, according to compilations made public, but in this case it was a most healthy sign. Not only does the decline in lynchings encourage the proponents of law and order, and give rise to the hope that the day will come when mob law will be ended forever, but this decline during 1932 also ended the theory that economic stress has a tendency to increase the power and activity of Judge Lynch.

There were fewer crimes committed by mobs in 1932 than ever before in history, which is fine. But sad to say, in seven of the eight lynchings reported by the Tuskegee Institute, the victims were taken from officers of the law, men sworn to protect their charges from all unlawful proceedings.

But on the other side, and to the eternal credit of the officers, it was recorded that in no less than 31 cases peace officers by their activities prevented threatened lynchings, and so upheld their oaths of office and the good names of their communities.

There is no question but that progress has been made in the effort to forever end this unlawful recourse to mob rule here in the South, yet at the same time the spirit of Judge Lynch has not been entirely quelled and there are many citizens who look with favor on a method of punishment outlawed by all civilized peoples.

But enlightenment is growing, and the women of the South, during the past year especially, have come to the forefront in the movement against lawlessness under the guise of mob rule. All honor and more strength to their efforts, and nothing but the highest of praise to those sworn officers who even at risk to themselves have upheld the law.

There may be excuses for lynchings in some instances, but for the negro in the South there is never an excuse. A negro in the South, if given into the hands of the law, is tried by a jury of whites, with every card stacked against him, and if guilty is sure to be found so, as every Southerner knows. Certainly there is no excuse for private citizens to assume the role of executioners and without judge or jury mete out punishment to those who, if legally tried, are certain to be punished to the full extent of the law.

Knowledge that this is true is helping to reduce the number of lynchings, and less pardoning by those in authority, and strict attention to duties by law courts, will aid materially, and from the record set in 1932 there is every reason to hope that the time will come when the South will be freed from the blight of the rule of Judge Lynch.

Lynchings-1932
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

3595

CHEYENNE, WYO.
Tribune

JAN-5 1933

MASS MURDER DECREASES

Howsoever it may appear in other perspectives, the year 1932 was a progressive cycle as concerns lynchings.

There occurred in the United States during the period, according to facts obtained by Tuskegee Institute, only eight lynchings, compared with 13 in 1931, 21 in 1930, 10 in 1929, 11 in 1928 and 16 in 1927.

Increased determination on the part of officers of the law to protect prisoners of the law from murderous lawlessness was responsible in great measure for a lynching record in 1932 less horrible than that of any of the preceding four years. Says the Tuskegee Institute's bulletin on the subject:

> There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern and western states and 27 in southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, seven white men and 35 Negroes—22 men and two women—were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Lynching is a reproach to American civilization. That day will be a happy [illegible] when it may be validly said that it has wholly ceased [illegible] this land.

POINT PLEASANT,
W. VA.
REGISTER

JAN 5 1933

Fewer Lynchings

The Register recently reprinted the annual report of Principal R. P. Morton of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute, a well known Negro institution in Alabama, concerning lynchings for the year 1932. He has records to show that eight persons were lynched in 1932.

This is five less than the number for 1931; 13 less than the number for 1930; two less than the number for 1929; three less than the number for 1928; and eight less than the number for 1927. Thus it will be seen that the year 1932 presents a decided improvement over former years so far as lynchings are concerned.

Of the eight persons lynched two were white and six were Negro. The offenses charged were murder, one; attempted murder, one; rape, one; attempted rape, one; wounding officer of the law, one; dynamiting store, one; insulting woman, one; threatening man with knife, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred were one each in Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia.

Regardless of the fact that the record will not be satisfactory until lynchings are completely eliminated, the decided reduction in the number of such offenses over past years is pleasing.

PARKERSBURG, W. VA
SENTINEL

JAN 4 1933

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R. R. Morton of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute, a wel
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This is five less than the number for 1931; 13 less than the number for 1930; two less than the number for 1929; three less than the number for 1928; and eight less than the number for 1927. Thus it will be seen that the year 1932 presents a decided improvement over former years so far as lynchings are concerned.

Of the eight persons lynched two were white and six were Negro. The offenses charged were murder, one; attempted murder, one; rape, one; attempted rape, one; wounding officer of the law, one; dynamiting store, one; insulting woman, one; threatening man with knife, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred were one each in Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia.

Regardless of the fact that the record will not be satisfactory until lynchings are completely eliminated, the decided reduction in the number of such offenses over past years is pleasing

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TIMES
Weirton, W. Va

JAN 11 [illegible]

FEWER LYNCHINGS

The Daily Times is in receipt of the annual report of Principal R. R. Morton of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute, a well known colored institution in Alabama, concerning lynchings for the year 1932. He has records to show that eight persons were lynched in 1932.

This is five less than the number for 1931; 13 less than the number for 1930; two less than the number for 1929; three less than the number for 1928; and eight less than the number for 1927. Thus it will be seen that the year 1932 presents a decided improvement over former years so far as lynchings are concerned. Of the eight persons lynched two were white and six were Negroes. The offenses charged were murder, one; attempted murder, one; rape, one; attempted rape, one; wounding officer of the law, one; dynamiting store, one; insulting woman, one; threatening man with knife, one. The states in which lynchings occurred were one each in Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio, Louisiana, Texas and Virginia.

Regardless of the fact that the record will not be satisfactory until lynchings are completely eliminated, the decided reduction in the number of such offenses over past years is quite pleasing.

BROWNWOOD, TEX
BULLETIN

JAN 3 1933

Fewer Lynchings.

THE ANNUAL report concerning lynchings in 1932 is at hand from the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute at Tuskegee, Alabama showing that there were only eight mob killings during the year. These occurred in eight states including Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Texas and Virginia of the Southern group, and Kansas, Kentucky and Ohio of the mid-western group of states. It was the best lynching record of many years, the nearest approach to it being that of 1920 when there were ten deaths at the hands of mobs.

The improved lynching record seems not to reflect a decrease of the mob spirit throughout the country, but is evidence of more effective methods for defeating the purposes of would-be lynchers. There were thirty-one instances, according to the annual report, in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, twenty-seven of them being in Southern states. A total of forty-two persons, including two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of lawless agencies. Of the eight persons lynched, seven were taken from the hands of the law, four of them being taken from jails, which suggests that adequate protective measures by officers might have been instrumental in reducing the year's lynching total to one instead of eight.

It is idle to hope that the mob spirit may be eliminated entirely because it is an expression of the innate savagery of the human mind and heart which may easily be aroused by an act of brutal criminality. But it is not idle to believe that officers of the law may eventually become so zealous in the performance of their duties that lynchings may be entirely prevented either by the removal of prisoners from places of danger or by armed resisance to mob threats. And it is distinctly encouraging to note such teady progress in that direction luring the past half dozen years.

3595

OAKLAND, CAL.
TRIBUNE

JAN 3 1933

THE LYNCHING RECORD.

Each year there comes from Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute an accurate summary of the lynchings which have taken place in the country. They have told a story of gradual decrease, with some disheartening interruptions.

Last year there were eight persons lynched in the United States, which is five less than the number for 1931; 13 less than for 1930; two less than in 1929; three less than in 1928 and eight less than in 1927. It is also to be noted that seven of the eight were taken from the hands of the law, four from jails and three from officers outside the jails. Two of the victims were white and six were Negro.

The principal of Tuskegee presents the statistics without comment, but it may be that one reason for the improvement in the records is an aroused public opinion against outrages of the kind and a more determined attitude on the part of the law to prevent them. There were 31 instances in which officers of the law did prevent lynchings, four of these in Northern and Western states and 27 in the South. In seven cases armed forces were used to repel the would-be lynchers. The list shows that no state had more than one lynching and that the ones with the marks to their discredit are: Arkansas, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia. The offenses charged against the men who were killed by mobs were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The better showing, it is to be hoped, means a growth of public opinion which may erase what has been a blot upon our civi tion.

POCATELLO, IDAHO
TRIBUNE

JAN 5 1933

THE 1932 LYNCHING RECORD

THE RECORD and research department of the Tuskegee Institute announces that there were eight persons lynched in 1932, that is five less than in 1931, thirteen less than in 1930, two less than in 1929, three less than in 1928 and eight less than in 1927. Of this year's eight persons lynched, two were white and six were negroes. The crimes charged were murder, attempted murder, rape, attempted rape, wounding officer of the law, dynamiting store, insulting women, threatening me with a knife, and one lynching occurred in each of the following states: Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia.

More encouraging, however, is the fact that there were during 1932, thirty-one instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern and western states and twenty-seven in southern states. In twenty-four of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repeal the would-be lynchers. A total of forty-two persons, seven white men and thirty-five negroes, thirty-three men and two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Will we ever become civilized?

MERIDIAN, MISS.
STAR

JAN 5 1933

PROGRESS

Eight persons lynched in 1932.

According to records compiled by the department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute this is five less than in 1931; thirteen less than in 1930; two less than in 1929; three less than in 1928, and eight less than in 1927.

The report shows that in 31 instances the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern and western states and 27 in southern states.

Mississippi has a clean slate for the year—not a single case wherein "mob rule" dealed summary justice (or injustice).

No state "boasts" more than one "neck-tie-party." The following states had one lynching each in the total of eight; Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia.

A good record—in comparison with preceding years—but still room for improvement.

TAMPA, FLA.
TRIBUNE

JAN 3 - 1933

Lynching Record Improves

In his annual report of lynchings, Principal R. R. Moton, of Tuskegee Institute, shows a gratifying record-breaking for 1932. There were only eight lynchings during the year—five less than in 1931, 13 less than in 1930, two less than in 1929, three less than in 1928, and eight less than in 1927.

Unfortunately Florida did not get an entirely clean record—one of the eight occurred in this state.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern and western states and 27 in southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augumented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, seven white men and 35 negroes, 33 men and two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the eight persons lynched, two were white and six were negro. The offenses charged were: Murder, 1; attempted murder, one; rape, one; attempted rape, one; wounding officer of the law, one; dynamiting store, one; insulting women, one; threatening men with a knife, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, one; Kansas, one; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Ohio, one; Texas, one; and Virginia, one.

DEMOCRAT
SHERMAN, TEX.

JAN 5 1933

There were only eight lynchings in the United States during 1932, according to the report of Tuskegee institute, which keeps the record. This is the smallest number of lynchings in any one year since records have been kept. There was one lynching in Texas, and one in each of seven other states, Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Louisiana, Ohio and Virginia. The report alleges that 31 lynchings were prevented by officers of the law. There were 13 lynchings in 1931, 21 in the previous year and 16 in 1927. The day may yet come when this class of murder may be entirely stopped.

Argus
Camden N. J.
JAN 5 19[illegible]

DROP IN LYNCHINGS

There Were Five Less Last Year Than in 1931

Editor of Camden Argus:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932. I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute that there were eight persons lynched in 1932. This is five less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; two less than the number 10 for 1929; three less than the number 11 for 1928, and eight less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law, four were taken from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails. The bodies of two of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern and western states and 27 in southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, seven white men and 35 negroes, 33 men and two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the eight persons lynched, tw were white and six were negro. Th offenses charged were: Murder, 1 attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer o the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening me with knife, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each stat are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florid 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louis ana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Vi ginia, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON, Principal.
Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 31, 193

Lynchings-1932
&
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

3596

Rogersville, Tenn., Herald
Thursday, January 5, 1933

ONLY EIGHT PERSONS LYNCHED IN 1932

According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute that there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 Negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were Negro. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, I; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C
TELEGRAM

JAN 2 - 1933

Decline in Lynchings

Statistics compiled by Robert R. Moton principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, reveal that eight persons, two whites and six Negroes, were lynched during 1932. The states in ~~which~~ the lynchings occurred were Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia. The number of deaths due to mob violence this year is five less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; two less than the number ten for 1929; three less than the number eleven for 1928; and eight less than the number 16 for 1927, the statistics reveal.

During the year there were 31 instances in which officers of the law by prompt action prevented lynchings. Four of the attempts were made in northern and western states and 27 unsuccessful efforts to lynch prisoners were made in southern states, the report continues. In seven other instances armed forces were used to repel would-be lynchers. Thus the lives of 42 persons, seven white men and 35 Negroes —33 men and 2 women—were saved from death at the hands of infuriated groups of people.

Offenses from which lynchings outbreaks developed were murder, attempted murder, rape, attempted rape, the wounding of an officer of the law, the dynamiting of a store, insulting a woman, and threatening men with a knife.

While this report lacks much in reaching the hoped for proportions, it is an encouraging one. Immediate and effective action on the part of determined officers prevented the death of a large number of persons, some of whom doubtless were not guilty, and many of whom were not charged with capital crimes. The Institute's records fail to disclose whether the number of actual lynchings and attempts to lynch—a total of 46—compare favorably with the record for 1931, but it is plainly evident that the determination of officers of the law particularly in the South, to prevent lynchings is taking a more concrete form.

Cooperation between the races has been and will continue to be productive of better feelings in this part of the nation where there is a heavy Negro population. Better informed colored people are as eager and as willing to assist in the enforcement of laws and to weed out crime as are white people. And while the process of moving away from the execution of lynch law must necessarily be slow, there is no doubt but that definite progress is being made.

Continued activity to prevent lynchings which must take the form of vigorous opposition on the part of officers of the law and a public expression against it are factors that will promote more harmonious relations between the races and prevent recurrence of deadly mob violence.

South Pittsburg, Tenn., Hustler
Thursday, January 12, 1933

DEPARTMENT OF RECORDS RESERCH TUSKEGEE INST. SHOWS 8 LYNCHINGS IN 1932

Robert R. Morton, principal Tuskegee Institute, Ala., sends to the press the following interesting information of the lynching evil in the states named below.

The school head says: "I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute that there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

"There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatennig men with a knife, 1.

"The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1."

TIMES-GAZETTE
ASHLAND, O.

JAN 3 - 1933

Only eight persons were lynched during 1932, according to a report issued by the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. This is five less than the number lynched during 1931. In 1930, 21 persons were lynched in the nation. The figures indicate that the forces of law and order are making progress over the spirit of mob rule.

New Orleans La,
Christian Advocate-
Jan. 12 - 1933

LYNCHINGS ARE FEWER

According to the records compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute, 8 persons were lynched in 1932. This is five less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; two less than the 10 of 1929; 3 less than the 11 for 1928, and 8 less than the 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; four were taken from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails. The bodies of two of the victims were burned.

Thirty-one instances were recorded in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern and Western states and 27 in Southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, seven white men and 35 negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved—from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched, two were white and six were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, one; attempted murder, one; rape, one; attempted rape, one; wounding officer of law, one; dynamiting store, one; insulting women, one; and threatening men with a knife, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida one; Kansas, one; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Ohio, one; Texas, one; and Virginia, one.

St. Andrews, Fla., News
Tuesday, January 3, 1933

ONLY 8 LYNCHINGS REPORTED FOR THE YEAR 1932

One Occurs In Florida And One In Seven Other States Of U. S.

According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Resea[illegible]e Tuskeegee Institute, there [illegible] only eight persons lynched during the year 1932. This is five less than the number thirteen for 1931; thirteen less than the number twenty-one for 1930; two less than the number ten for 1929; three less than the number eleven for 1928, and eight less than the number sixteen for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; four were taken from jails, and three from officers of the law outside of jails. The bodies of two of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchings. A total of 42 persons, seven white men and 35 negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were negro. The offenses charged were: Murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, one.

RECORDER
Conshohocken Pa
JAN 3 1933

Lynching on The Decline

December 31, 1932

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932. I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of two of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 Negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were Negro. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON, Principal

Robesonian
Lumberton - N. C.
JAN 2 [illegible]

FEWER LYNCHINGS

The following information regarding lynchings is given out by Robert R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial, from records compiled in the department of records and research of the Alabama colored institute which was founded by the late Booker Washington:

There were 8 persons lynched in the United States in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 4 in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were negro. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1 attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1 Virginia, 1.

North Carolina again has a clean record in this respect. The number of persons lynched is the smallest of any year during the past five, but the up-and-down record does not support argument that mob murder is definitely on the decrease. There were fewer lynchings in 1931 than in 1929 or 1928, but the high mark for the lustrum of 21 in 1930 was reached after a decrease for two years from the 16 victims in 1927. At least it is to be hoped that 1933 will set another new low

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LYNCHBURG, VA.
ADVANCE
JAN 3 - 1933

THE 1932 LYNCHING RECORD

Tuskegee Institute's annual report on lynchings show that 1932 was freer of mob violence than any year since lynch law first inflicted itself upon the American nation. Last year eight men were lynched, six of the crimes occurring in the South. Of the eight lynchings, all but two involved Negroes and in only two instances was the usual cause of lynchings prevalent. For the 12 years, the lynching record is as follows:

Year	Lynchings
1932	8
1931	13
1930	21
1929	10
1928	11
1927	16
1926	30
1925	17
1924	16
1923	33
1922	57
1921	64

Although after comparative lulls in the record there have been spurts in lynchings, the trend since 1921 has been downward and in view of the low level reached last year there is hope that this form of lawlessness may in the near future be successfully curbed. A large group of Southern women have already launched plans to make 1933 a lynchless year in the South in particular and their campaign should be encouraged by the record of 1932. While lynching is not entirely confined to the Southern States yet it is in this section that it has flourished and if this year is to be free of lynchings, the South will nave to be the main factor in reaching such a goal.

ADVOCATE
Westminster, Md.
JAN 6 1933

Eight Lynchings In 1932

The following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932 has been released. According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute that there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisons were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 Negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were Negro. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1, and Virginia 1.

Lynchings-1932
Reports on, Sent Pres=

Jan-Dec.

3597

CITIZEN
Red Springs, N.C.
JAN 19 1933

FEWER LYNCHINGS.

The number of Lynchings during 1932 were less than those in recent years. The figures of the Tuskegee Institute are 8 and those of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People are even, the discrepancy being explained because of different definitions used by the two organizations in defining what a lynching is. Figures for previous years running back from 1932 are 13, 21, 10, 11 and 16 in 1927.

Southern sentiment has mobilized against lawless killings, although it is only fair to bear in mind that the South is not the only region where groups take the law in their own hands. Southern women in particular, have publicly expressed condemnation of lynchings and their leadership causes the Boston Globe to say that "these women deserve the hearty support of enlightened public opinion everywhere. They are doing for the honor of their States a work which will one day be recognized as heroic." There is also a growing determination upon the part of officers of the law to protect their prisoners in their custody.

BROOKLYN CITIZEN
JAN 20 1933

Institute Recorded Eight Lynchings During 1932

TUSKEGEE, Ala., (U.P.)—Eight lynchings, the fewest in five years, occurred in the United States during 1932, according to a report released here recently by Tuskegee (Negro) Institute.

They took place in the following States. Arkansas, one; Florida, one; Kansas, one; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Ohio, one; Texas, one, and Virginia, one.

In 31 instances, law enforcement officers prevented lynchings, thus saving the lives of seven white men and 31 Negroes.

Titusville, Fla., Advocate
Tuesday, January 3, 1933

Lynchings In U. S. Lowered During 1932

Only 8 In The United States In 1932, And Only One of These Was In Florida

Lynchings in the United States fell off in 1932 from 1931 and other former years, according to records made public this week. Eight persons were lynched in the United States, and only one lynching took place in Florida during the year.

This is five less than the number, 13, for 1931; 13 less than the number, 21, for 1930; two less than the number, 10, for 1929; three less than the number, 11, for 1928, and eight less than the number, 16, for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; four were taken from jails, and three from officers of the law outside of jails. The bodies of two of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 negroes, 33 men and two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were negro. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

Milton, Fla., Gazette
Thursday, January 5, 1933

EIGHT LYNCHED IN U. S. DURING THE YEAR 1932

Less Than Any Former Year Since Records Have Been Kept

According to records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute there were 8 persons lynched in the United States in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; Virginia, 1.

Tuscaloosa, Ala., News
Tuesday, January 3, 1933

DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS

ONE of the gratifying developments of the past year was the decrease in lynchings, there being but eight outrages of this nature compared to 13 in 1931.

This improvement is due more to the alertness of officers of the law than to awakened public conscience, however, as the record shows that attempted lynchings were prevented in 31 cases.

Of these 31 triumphs of law over mob violence, 27 were in Southern states, and the record proves conclusively that officers of courage, who have a proper sence of obligation to their oaths, can prevent mob violence if they so desire. That increasing numbers are maintaining the dignity of the law is cause for gratification.

The states in which lynchings occurred during the past year were Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; Virginia, 1. Thus it will be seen that Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee and North and South Carolina were free from outrages of this nature, and that, too, is cause for satisfaction.

MESSENGER
Marshall, Tex.
JAN 12 1933

NUMEROUS observers, judging the present by the past predicted that economic depression would bring an increase in the country's annual list of lynchings. Times of unemployment in the past always had aggravated inter-racial economic rivalry, and the resultant idleness had invariably created the proverbially attendant mischief. These prophets, however, did not attach proper importance to the rise of organizations, many in the South, determinedly devoted to stamping out mob murder, to the virtually universal condemnatory attitude of the press and to the growing sense of responsibility among officers of the law as to the safety of their prisoners.

The lynching record for 1932, as compiled at Tuskegee Institute, totals only eight, the lowest figure since the evil began to develop in the Reconstruction period. Year after year, up to the turn of the century, the yearly average of lynchings approached 150, and the maximum was set in 1892, when 255 persons were killed by mobs. The number dwindled slowly, and as recently as 1922 there were 57 lynchings. The previous low record was 10, in 1929. There were 21 in 1930 and 13 in 1931, so the reduction to eight last year was truly notable.

Tuskegee's figures give credit to officers of the law who, on 31 occasions last year, prevented lynchings. Many of these men risked their lives rather than meet the mob's demands, placing their high conception of duty above personal peril. The past year had few bright spots, but in the ebb of lynch law it shone conspicuously. If economic conditions can be bettered and the spread of enlightenment continues, this generation may yet see a year unmarred by the cowardly crime of lynching.—Post-Dispatch.

BATAVIA, N. Y.
NEWS

JAN 4 - 1933

THE LYNCHING YEAR.

Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, sent The News his annual summary of lynchings as follows:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932. I find according to the records compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were eight persons lynched in 1932. This is five less than the number (13) for 1931; thirteen less than the number (21) for 1930; two less than the number (10) for 1929; three less than the number (11) for 1928 and eight less than the number (16) for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; four were taken from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of two of the victims were burned.

"There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern and western states and 27 in southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augumented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, seven white men and 35 negroes, 33 men and two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the eight persons lynched, two were white and six were negro. The offenses charged were: Murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1, attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1 and Virginia, 1.

ALBANY, N. Y.
KNICKERBOCKER PRESS

JAN 15 1933

STILL EIGHT TOO MANY

IN his report on the number of lynchings in the United States during 1932, ~~Princi~~pal R. R. Moton of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, states that eight persons, two white and six Negroes, were killed by lawless mobs. It is gratifying to note that the number is the smallest in any of the last five years. In 1931, lynchings numbered 13; in 1930, 21, and 10, 11 and 16 in each of the three preceding years. Also, it may be noted with satisfaction that officers of the law resisted the unruly mobs with increasing effectiveness to prevent lynchings in 31 instances, thereby saving 42 persons from violent death at the hands of the vengeance-mad rabble.

The crimes in connection with which the eight lynchings took place included murder, attempted murder, rape, attempted rape, wounding officer of the law, dynamiting store, insulting women and threatening men with a knife. This wide diversity of crime shows that the mob's vengeance springs from general racial hostility rather than from a particular abhorrence regarding any single offense.

Improvement in the country's lynching figures is one of the standing challenges to all the agencies which are working for racial understanding and justice for all. Eight violent deaths are an outrageous penalty to pay for senseless rage on the part of a crowd of ostensibly decent people. Education and the firm arm of the law officer, supported by force of arms if necessary, may not rest until the lynching disgrace is completely wiped from the record.

Darlington, S. C. News & Press
Thursday, January 5, 1933

LYNCHINGS FOR 1932 SHOW SOME DECREASE

For the year 1932, according to the records compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute, there were eight persons lynched in 1932. This is five less than the number, thirteen, for 1931; thirteen less than the number, twenty-one, for 1930; two less than the number, ten, for 1929; three less than the number, eleven, for 1928, and eight less than the number, sixteen, for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; four were taken from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of two of the victims were burned.

There were thirty-one instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, four of these having been in Northern and Western States and twenty-seven in Southern States. In twenty-four of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of forty-two persons, seven white men and thirty-five negroes, thirty-three men and two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the eight persons lynched two were white and six were negro. The offenses charged were: Murder, one; attempted murder, one; rape, one; attempted rape, one; wounding officer of the law, one; dynamiting store, one; insulting women, one; threatening men with a knife, one.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, one; Kansas, one; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Ohio, one; Texas, one, and Virginia, one.

Tallasse, Ala., Tribune
Friday, January 20, 1933

FEWER LYNCHINGS

The number of lynchings during 1932 were less than those in recent years. The figures of the Tuskegee Institute are eight and those of he National Association for the Advancement of Colored People are even, the discrepancy being explained because of different definitions used by the two organizations in defining what a lynching is. Figures for previous years running back from 1932 are 13, 21, 10, 11, ad 16 in 1927.

Southern sentiment has mobilized against lawless killings, although it is only fair to bear in mind that the South is not the only region where groups ake the law in their own hands. Souhern women, in particular, have publicly experssed condemnation of lynchings, and their leadership causes the Boston Globe to say that "these women deserve the hearty support of enlightened public opinion everywhere. They are doing for the honor of their States a work which will one day be recognized as heroic." There is also a growing determination upon the part of officers of the law to protect their prisoners in their custody.

Pittsboro, N. C., Record
Thursday, January 19, 1933

FEWER LYNCHINGS

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THE NUMBER OF lynchings during 1932 were less than those in recent years. The figures of the Tuskegee Institute are eight and those of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People are seven, the discrepancy being explained because of different definitions used by the two organizations in defining what a lynching is. Figures for previous years running back from 1932 are 13, 21, 10, 11 and 16 in 1927.

Southern sentiment has mobilized against lawless killings, although it is only fair to bear in mind that the South is not the only region where groups take the law in their own hands. Southern women, in particular, have publicly expressed condemnation of lynching, and their leadership cause the Boston Globe to say that "these women deserve the hearty support of enlightened public opinion everywhere. They are doing for the honor of their States a work which will one day be recognized as heroic." There is also a growing determination upon the part of officers of the law to protect their prisoners in their custody.

SANDUSKY, O., JOURNAL
FEB. 6, 1933

INSTITUTE RECORDED 8 LYNCHINGS IN 1932

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—Eight lynchings, the fewest in five years, occurred in the United States during 1932, according to a report released here recently by Tuskegee (Negro) Institute.

They took place in the following states: Arkansas, one; Florida, one; Kansas, one; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Ohio, one; Texas, one, and Virginia, one.

In 31 instances, law enforcement officers prevented lynchings, thus saving the lives of seven white men and 31 negroes.

ENTERPRISE
Natchitoches - La.
JAN 26 1933

LYNCHING RECORD

Tuskegee figures on the lynchings during 1932 in the United States are unusually good. The number was smaller than in any year for a long time, with much efficiency shown by law officers in the suppression of mob violence.

Only eight persons were unlawfully executed by mobs during the twelve months. In thirty-one instances police or county guardians of the peace thwarted mob murder attempts, twenty-seven of these instances occurring in the South. The campaign of Southern newspapers and leading Southern citizens of all classes to relieve the South of the stigma of mob government is apparently having its effect. Incidentally, the campaign is being helped by the constant threat of a Federal statute that would give the Washington government jurisdiction in cases of lynching.

Of the eight persons whose lives were illegally taken two were white. That refutes the charge that Southern lynchings only happen in the case of negro violators of the law.

It is to be hoped that the low record of eight set by 1932 will mark the maximum and that there will be a steady decline of mob outbreaks until the time comes when resort to violence in the administration of "justice" in the South will become a thing of the past.

That day can be hastened with the co-operation of leaders of the negro race. They should devote themselves zealously to the task of teaching its members always to live within the law.

Lynchings- 1932
Reports on Sent Press.

Jan.-Dec.

3839

TRIBUNE
PROVIDENCE, R. I.

DEC 31 1932

LYNCHINGS

In accordance with custom Dr. R. R. Moton, head of the Tuskegee Institute, has sent us a record of lynchings during the year. From it we learn that eight persons have been lynched since Jan. 1 last. This, according to Dr. Moton, is five less than were lynched in 1931, thirteen less than were lynched in 1930; two less than were lynched in 1929; three less than were lynched in 1928, and eight less than were lynched in 1927. It seems as if a very foul form of crime were disappearing.

It is encouraging also to note that there were thirty-one instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, more especially because twenty-seven of these occurred in Southern States. In twenty-four of them the prisoners were either removed to another location or the guards about them were increased. In seven cases, however, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. Dr. Moton estimates that seven white men and thirty-five Negroes were, in this way, saved from mobs. Of the eight persons lynched, two were whites and six were Negroes. The offences charged against them were: Murder, one; attempted murder, one; rape, one; attempted rape, one; wounding officer of the law, one; dynamiting store, one; insulting women, one; threatening men with a knife, one. It is interesting to note that not a single State had more than one lynching chalked up against it.

The two most salient points in this record are the fact that Southern States are showing an increasing determination to uphold their own organized laws above that of "Judge Lynch," and that the problem of bad times has not increased the number of lynchings as some people predicted it would because of conflicts between white and colored labor. On the whole, therefore, Dr. Moton's report is an encouraging document, but, of course, conditions will not satisfy any civilized mind until this revolting form of lawlessness disappears altogether.

New Haven Journal Courier

1932 RECORD ON LYNCHINGS.

To the Editor:

Sir: I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932, and according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

1-2-33

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern and Western states and 27 in Southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 Negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

New Haven, Conn.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

ROBERT R. MOTON,
Principal, Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.
Tuskegee, Ala., December 29.

.. Y. EVENING POST

JAN 3 1933

FEWER LYNCHINGS

Eight persons were lynched during 1932, of whom two were white. Two of the lynchings occurred in the North, one each in Ohio and Kansas. The number thus slain by mobs is less than the number for any other recent year, the figures being: 1931, 13; 1930, 21; 1929, 10; 1928, 11; 1927, 16. The other side of the picture is decidedly encouraging. There were no fewer than thirty-one occasions on which officers of the law prevented lynchings and twenty-seven of these were in Southern States. In seven instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A list of the causes for the illegal executions shows afresh how little there is in the argument that they are the result of anger over the mistreatment of white women. The offenses charged against the men lynched in 1932 were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; insulting women, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1. These figures are issued by the Tuskegee Department of Records and Research without comment. When the department began this compilation there was little to record regarding the endeavors of officials to prevent lynchings. The space which it is now necessary to give to these activities is highly gratifying to every citizen worthy of the name. It points to the approach of the time when we shall be rid of a worse barbarism than slavery itself.

NORFOLK, VA.
VIRGINIAN-PILOT

JAN 2 - 1933

Still Less Lynching

If Tuskegee Institute's records are accurate, 1932 was more nearly free from lynching than any other year in American history. Even if the records of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People are correct—they habitually show more lynchings than Tuskegee lists—1932 was more nearly free from this crime than any other year save one. Tuskegee reports eight instances of lynch law, six of which were in the South. Two of the men thus murdered by mobs were white. Of the eight, one was charged with criminal assault, a second with attempted criminal assault, and a third with insulting women. The other offenses charged were murder, attempted murder, wounding an officer, dynamiting a store, and threatening a man with a knife. In these latter respects the year's record runs true to form. Lynching continues peculiarly a phenomenon of the South. It continues to be a form of mob violence directed principally against Negroes. And it results in the majority of cases from charges wholly disconnected with the old fiction of "protecting Southern womanhood."

The most important feature of the year's record is the decrease. If the Tuskegee figures are accepted, the eight lynchings of 1932 are to be compared with 13 in 1931, 21 in 1930 (an abnormal year), 10 in 1929, 11 in 1928, 16 in 1927, 30 in 1926 (another abnormal year), 17 in 1925, 16 in 1924, 33 in 1923, 57 in 1922, 64 in 1921, and increasingly large numbers for earlier years. The jump in 1926 is partly explained by unusual boom conditions in Florida, which brought floating laborers and many disorders to that State. The later rise in 1931 is still unexplained. But regardless of these black marks, the record improves. If it is still a ghastly commentary on our civilization that any lynchings are possible, there is satisfaction that the curve has resumed its downward trend and is now at the lowest point on record.

Another detail of these reports would seem to call for further investigation. Both Tuskegee and the N. A. A. C. P. list a lynching in Virginia. The case is that of Shadrock Thompson a Warrenton Negro, whose body was found hanging by a rope to a tree several weeks after he had been sought on a charge of criminal assault. Fauquier County officers called it a suicide, and still do. A coroner's jury and a grand jury returned suicide verdicts. The Richmond News Leader, which made a special investigation, found no reason to call it a lynching. Former Governor Byrd, during whose administration the Virginia anti-lynching law was passed, has inquired into the facts and is convinced that this was not a lynching. If it is not, it ought not to be so listed. The difference of opinion could probably be settled if an investigation were undertaken by such a body as the Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching, the most competent authority on this subject.

BALTIMORE, MD.
MORNING SUN

JAN 3 1933

LYNCHING RECORD

Tuskegee Institute's annual lynching record for 1932 contains highly encouraging findings. It shows that the number of lynchings for the year just closed was very small. Only eight persons met their deaths from mob violence in the entire twelve-month period, as compared with thirteen persons in 1931. The decline brings the lynching total to the lowest figure since the rise of lynch law began in the Reconstruction era. Only a decade ago the annual toll of mob violence amounted to from fifty to one hundred victims a year. Since then there has been a progressive drop, with the result that in 1929 only ten persons succumbed to lynch law, and now the total has fallen to a still lower mark. It is a hopeful augury.

The decline in the curve of violence ought not, however, to be taken as a pretext for a relaxation of the effort to stamp out this particularly obnoxious manifestation of lawlessness. On the contrary, it ought to spur every

Commonwealth in which lynchings have recently occurred to a redoubled effort and a higher sense of responsibility. The complete suppression of lynch law cannot be achieved without a final drive on every front. The opportunity for Maryland to join in such a drive presents itself as the biennial session of the State Legislature opens. One of the important tasks before the session will be a consideration of measures to arm the State authorities with power adequately to deal with lynching cases.

While the name of this State does not appear in the lynching record for 1932, certain events of 1931, still fresh in the public mind, serve to underscore the need for careful consideration of this subject at the very outset of the session.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX.
EXPRESS
JAN 1 1933

FROM THE LYNCHING RECORD FOR THE PAST YEAR

During 1932, Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute reports, lynchings took the lowest toll of any year since the authentic record first was kept in 1885. That authority counted 8 mob-murder victims in 1932, as compared with 13 for 1931, with 21 for 1930, with 10 for 1929, with 11 for 1928 and with 16 for 1927. The Institute does not include riot-victims in its enumeration.

In any event, encouraging improvement is noted. If the relapse two years ago sprang from the economic crisis—as some interpreters have held—the improvement during a time of ever worse difficulties should be cited to the country's credit.

Public resentment at the flare-up of the evil during 1930 gave rise to fresh organized movements for creating anti-lynching sentiment. For example the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching, in memorable resolutions, disavowed the mob as the "defender of Southern womanhood". Churches, civic and patriotic groups throughout the South endorsed the Association's demand that "right-thinking men and women do their utmost to eradicate this crime." About the same time, the Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching—embracing some of the section's foremost citizens—undertook its far-reaching investigation. Those activities, together with the educational work which the press and other agencies have carried on for years, probably contributed toward reducing mob violence.

Latterly the evil has spread far beyond the traditional "lynching-belt." The 1932 record at Tuskegee charges Ohio and Kansas with one mob murder each. For 1931, Maryland and North Dakota, and for 1930, Indiana, appeared on the infamous roll. The problem of suppressing "lynch law" therefore is no longer Southern only, but national.

Texas still lives in a glass house. Absent from the roll in 1931, this State reappears on it for 1932, though charged with but one lynching. The infamy is there, though less than in 1922, when Texas mobs took 18 victims. Having progressed thus far, this Commonwealth surely should be able to eradicate the blot forever.

Great credit is due those fearless peace officers, in this and other States, who successfully resist mobs. Tuskegee Institute reports 42 persons thus saved during the past year. Until mob spirit can be rooted out, such official courage will be needed.

HOUSTON, TEX.
POST DISPATCH
JAN 3 1933

Fewer Lynchings

BAD as 1932 was in some respects, it is entitled to credit for at least one thing. It brought a record of fewer lynchings than has been made in any year previously for a long time, and it revealed a growing inclination on the part of officers of the law to foil would-be lynchers.

For the year 1932 there were only eight instances of mob murder, according to statistics kept by the department of records and research of Tuskegee institute, the noted ~~negro college~~ in Alabama of which Booker T. Washington was for many years principal, and which is headed now by R. R. Moton, one of the outstanding negro leaders in this generation.

And there were thirty-one instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Twenty-seven of these were in Southern States. That record refutes the charge sometimes made that Southern officers often are in sympathy with lynchers. Occasionally, perhaps, they are. But in the great majority of cases officers in the South are as eager to protect prisoners and see that the law is allowed to take its course as are officers in other sections of the country.

As a matter of fact, the determined stand taken by Southern officers against mobs is one of the factors in the progress that has been made in the South in the suppression of lynching.

Two of the persons lynched were white. Lynching, therefore, is not directed exclusively at the negro race. and it is not always, as many people seem to believe, an outgrowth of racial animosity.

Sentiment against mob murders is growing and it is not too much to hope that within a short time these crimes will be completely things of the past.

BOSTON, MASS.
AMERICAN
JAN 3 1933

Fewer Lynchings

An Encouraging Sign

A hopeful sign of better race relations in the South is afforded by the decrease in lynchings this year as compared with last.

According to figures from the New York headquarters of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, there were eleven lynchings in 1932, whereas in 1931 there were fourteen. Two of the persons lynched this year, moreover, were whites.

Lynching is not confined exclusively to the South, one of the 1932 cases being in Ohio. And, considering the North's record for murder and assassination, it is perhaps not too much to conclude that "lynch law," once among the most sinister types of crime, is becoming a relatively minor matter. The impromptu executions of gangsters and of innocent bystanders at the hands of gunmen in the great Northern cities make most parts of the South look like Sunday school communities by contrast.

MERIDIAN, MISS
STAR
JAN 1 1933

LYNCHINGS ARE FEWER

According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, 8 persons were lynched in 1932. This is five less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; two less than the 10 for 1929; 3 less than the 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; four were taken from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails. The bodies of two of the victims were burned.

Thirty-one instances were recorded in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern and western states and 27 in southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, seven white men and 35 negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved—from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched, two were white and six were negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, one; attempted murder, one; rape one; attempted rape, one; wounding officer of law, one; dynamiting store, one; insulting women, one; and threatening men with a knife, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, one; Kansas, one; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Ohio, one; Texas, one; and Virginia, one.

WILMINGTON, DEL
JOURNAL
DEC 31 1932

EIGHT LYNCHINGS TOO MANY

TOWARD the close of each year the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, for the training of colored young men and young women collects, compiles and broadcasts figures bearing upon lynchings in the United States during the twelve-month period just closing.

They always are interesting because they usually carry with them certain comparative values which show the effect of the nation-wide campaign of education against the substitution of disorderly lynch law for orderly court law.

We just have received from Robert R. Moton, principal of the institute, the figures for 1932. They had been gathered by the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee, and show a gratifying falling off of mob violence resulting in death.

Eight persons were lynched in 1932, or five fewer than were lynched in 1931, when the total was thirteen; thirteen less than twenty-one for 1930; two less than ten for 1929; three less than eleven for 1928 and eight less than sixteen for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; four were taken from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails. The bodies of two of the victims were burned.

There were thirty-one instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern and Western States and twenty-seven in Southern States. In twenty-four of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of forty-two persons, seven white men and thirty-five Negroes, thirty-three men and two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the eight persons lynched, two were whites and six were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, one; attempted murder, one; rape, one; attempted rape, one; wounding officer of the law, one; dynamiting store, one; insulting women, one; threatening men with a knife, one.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, one; Kansas, one; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Ohio, one; Texas, one; and Virginia, one.

The 1932 record certainly is, in a comparative sense, a fine one. Beneath it all, however, rests the fact that even in that year there were eight lynchings too many.

Jan.-Dec.

Lynchings-1932
Reports on, Sent Press.

3840

INDEPENDENT
STOCKTON, CALIF.

JAN 12 1933

Record of Lynchings

EACH year the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute of Tuskegee, Ala., releases a summary of lynchings for the annual period. This year's report shows a lessening of the work of Judge Lynch, but not necessarily an abatement in the spirit of mob vengeance and blood lust.

Total mob murders were eight, of which seven of the victims were taken from the hands of the law. Often the justification for "summary justice" was the indifference of officials, but such an excuse does not apply when the officers of the law were in the process of bringing offenders to justice. However the total of those whose lives were sacrificed to mobs is under the total for several years back. Records for recent years show 13 in 1931; 21 in 1930; 10 in 1929; 11 in 1928, and 16 for 1927.

It would appear, however, that the lowering of the rate is due more to the vigilance and determination of officers and the growing public sentiment of the responsibility of government. Thirty-one instances are reported where lynching bees were thwarted, with the saving of 42 persons from violence or death. In some instances guards augmented peace officers.

Also the records show that the "one crime" conventionally cited in justification of mob action is not conspicuously present in the list of crimes. They are given as: Murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer. of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with knife, 1. Of the persons lynched two were white and six negroes.

Lynchings occurred in eight states, of which two, Kansas and Ohio, were northern.

Lynching has been one of the foul spots in American social control, due largely to a racial conflict. Evidently the more vigorous official action is reducing the horrible toll, as well as frustrating the spirit of vengeance.

Norton, Va. Weekly
Wednesday, January 11, 1933

LYNCHINGS IN NATION MUST BE ABOLISHED

Smallest Number of Mob Murders In 1932 Than Any Year Since Reconstruction Days

According to a report issued by Tuskegee Institute, which annually compiles lynching statistics, there were eight lynchings during 1932, explains the Bristol Herald Courier, in an editorial analysis in which the writer maintains that just as long as there is one lynching a year, the campaign against mob lawlessness should and will continue.

Furthering his argument, the writer says: "Of these, six occurred in the South and two in other sections; and of the eight victims of mob violence, two were white men and the other were Negroes. One of the eight victims was accused of criminal assault, one of attempted criminal assault, and one of insulting women. Other offenses charged were murder, attempted murder, wounding an officer, dynamiting a store, and threatening a man with a knife.

Some Doubt Exists

"One of the reported lynchings, supposed to have occurred in Virginia, probably was not a lynching. Several months ago the body of Shadrack Thompson, a Negro, was found hanging to a tree in Fauquier county and the presumption was that he had been hanged by a mob. The matter was thoroughly investigated, with the result that a Coroner's Jury and a Grand Jury reached the conclusion that it was a case of suicide. Thompson was wanted for assault or attempted assault on a white woman, officers were in pursuit of him, and the theory is that he despaired of escaping and took his own life.

Seven Lynchings In 1932

"If Thompson committeed suicide, as he probably did, there were only seven lynchings in this country in 1932. That is the smallest number of mob murders in any year since Reconstruction days, but the number still is seven too many. As long as there is one lynching a year the campaign against mob lawlessness should and will continue."

Newberry, S. C. Herald & News
Friday, January 6, 1938

EIGHT LYNCHED DURING PAST YEAR

VICTIMS NUMBERED 13 PREVIOUS YEAR.

Dr. Moton at Tuskegee Gives Offenses Charged to Those Illegally Put to Death.

Eight persons, six of them colored, were lynched during the past year as compared with 13 for the year 1931, according to a statement sent out from Tuskegee Institute by Dr. R. R. Moton, principal. The statement follows.

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932. I find according to the records compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute that there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928, and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 6 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of two of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 4 of these were in Northern and Western states and 27 in Southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were negro. The offenses charged were: Murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

Gallatin ,Tenn.; Tennessean
Thursday, January 19, 1933

FEWER LYNCHINGS

The number of lynchings during 1932 less than those in recent years. The figures of the Tuskegee Institute are eight and those of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People are even, the discrepancy being explained because of different definitions used by the two organizations in defining what lynching is. Figures for previous years running back from 1932 are 13, 21, 10, 11, and 16 in 1927.

Southern sentiment has mobilized against lawless killings, although it is only fair to bear in mind that the **South is not the only region** where groups take the law in their own hands. Southern women, in particular, have publicly expressed condemnation of lynchings, and their leadership causes the Boston Globe to say that "these women deserve the hearty support of enlightened public opinion everywhere. They are going for the honor of their States a work which will one day be recognized as heroic." There is also a growing determination upon the part of officers of the law to protect their prisoners in their custody.

Russellville, Ala., Times
Thursday, January 5, 1933

Eight Lynchings In 1932, Tuskegee Report Shows

TUSKEGEE, ALA.—Eight lynchings took place in 1932, the lowest number in years, the department of records and research at Tuskegee Institute reported Monday.

Of the number, six were negroes and the charges included murder one; attempted murder one, criminal attack one; attempted attack one; wounding officer of the law and dynamiting store one; insulting women one; and threatening men with a knife one.

Eight states reported one lynching each, the report said. They were Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia.

The report said four of those lynched were taken from jails and three were taken from officers of the law outside of jails. Thirty-one instances were reported where officers prevented lynchings.

Kingstree, S. C., Record
Thursday, January 19, 1933

Lynchings in 1932.

According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

Carrollton, Ga., Times
Thursday, January 5, 1933

GEORGIA HAD NO LYNCHINGS IN 1932

According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 of 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside the jails; the bodies of two of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the eight persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, .1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1, Insulting women,1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The States in which lynchings occured and the number in each State are aas follows: Arkansas, 1; 1;Lousianna, 1; Ohio,1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

Selma, Ala. Times
Saturday, January 7, 1933

PROGRESS

Eight persons lynched in 1932.

According to records compiled by the department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute this is five less than in 1931: thirteen less than in 1930: two less than in 1929: three less than in 1928, and eight less than in 1927.

The report shows that in 31 instances the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern and western states and 27 in southern states.

Mississippi has a clean slate for the year—not a single case wherein "mob rule" dealed summary justice (or injustice).

No state "boasts" more than one "neck-tie-party." The following states had one lynching each in the total of eight: Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia.

A good record—in comparison with preceding years—but still room for improvement.—Meridian Star.

EVERETT, WASH.
NEWS

JAN 21 1933

MOB MURDER DECREASING

The annual Tuskegee institute report on lynchings in the United States reveals the happy news (to use a mocking phrase) that only eight men were brought to their deaths during 1932 at the hands of mobs and without recourse to a just trial.

It is not happy news, of course, except insofar as the figure shows a continuing trend away from mob murder. It is revolting that in an ostensibly civilized nation even eight should be killed by bloodthirsty crowds of citizens, but the record is so much cleaner than it has ever been since the Civil war that it is almost cheering.

Even in the 10 years preceding 1910, the number of lynchings averaged almost 100 annually. In the last 10 years, the average has been less than 18.

In the 40 years since 1890, Iowa's record has been far from clean. There are eight lynchings on her scroll of dishonor. But it has been the negro and "rustler" states that led the massacre. Georgia, for example, recorded 463 in that period, Mississippi 452, Louisiana 340 and Texas 349.

Perhaps one of the brightest rays of hope arises from the fact that Mississippi indulged in not a single lynching during the past year. Injustice and inhumanity still exist, undoubtedly, but at least in their most barbaric form they are slowly being pushed back.

With the supreme court's intercession in behalf of the "railroaded" negro youths of Scottsboro, and the more recent exposure of torture in the southern prison camps, the lynching figures certainly demonstrate a public consciousness aroused against mob tyranny and covert brutality.

ST. JOSEPH, MO.
NEWS PRESS

7

JAN 27 1933

Editorial Observations

It is not likely that United States Senator Harry Hawes, who has resigned his seat, effective Feb. 3, will be often seen in Missouri in the future. He is said to have declared he would not engage actively in politics in the future and that his permanent home would be in Washington. The senator, in closing at sixty-four a congressional career of twelve consecutive years, half of it in the house of representatives, will turn to serving at Washington as national representative for three or four game and fish conservation organizations, a subject on which he has specialized for years.

Commenting on efforts to induce the governor of Massachusetts to grant extradition of a colored man held in Boston after identification as the murderer of two women in Virginia, only upon assurance that the accused would be given a fair trial, brought a vigorous protest from the director of the Virginia commission on inter-racial co-operation, who would consider such a demand an insult to his state. He quotes from The Negro Year Book, compiled at Tuskegee Institute, that out of 1,886 lynchings in the United States from 1900 to 1931, only 26 were in Virginia. "No reasonable citizen, of course," says the commissioner, "could or would defend even this low record, but it is hardly fair to single Virginia out as a place where justice is such a stranger as to require a bond that even her worst criminals will be given a fair trial." The commissioner declares Virginia's anti-lynching law, enacted during Governor Byrd's administration, is classed as the most constructive legislation in recent years and has served as a model for other states.

RACINE, WIS.
JOURNAL NEWS

JAN 30 [illegible]

LYNCHINGS RECORD NEW LOW

Tuskegee institute has reported that only eight Negroes were lynched in 1932—the lowest figure since the evil began in the reconstruction era. The maximum was reached in 1892 when 255 persons were murdered by mobs and while the number dwindled slowly since that time, there were 57 lynchings as recently as 1922. The previous low record was 10 in 1929. The total rose to 21 in 1930 and stood at 13 in 1931.

The record established last year is significant of the growth of public sentiment against mob rule, particularly when it is remembered that 1932 was a year in which idleness created inter-racial economic rivalry. The institute's report gives proper credit to law enforcement officials, who, on 31 occasions during the year, risked mob violence rather than yield to the mob's demands.

Lynchings - 1932

Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

3841

THE LYNCHING RECORD.

Both the Tuskegee Institute record and that of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, in their lists of States in which lynchings occurred in 1932, name Virginia. The reference is no doubt to the case of Shadrock Thompson Warrenton Negro, whose body was found hanging to a tree in Fauquier County. Several weeks before he had been charged with criminal assault, but the search had gone on quietly. Since several weeks had passed since his accusation, there was no reason to suspect mob violence.

A coroner and a grand jury called it suicide. Later the Richmond News Leader sent Roy Flannagan, staff correspondent, to Fauquier to make an inquiry. Mr. Flannagan has written several books dealing with race relations, and after close inquiry he was satisfied that it was suicide. The Negro knew the officers were still looking for him and finding escape impossible, took his own life, according to Mr. Flannagan. Former Governor Byrd, during whose administration the Virginia anti-lynching statute was enacted, made his own inquiry, and was satisfied that it was not a lynching. Reports to Governor Pollard from county officers and others seemed to confirm the verdict of suicide.

Since Virginia has been free for some years from the stain of lynching, it would seem to be in order for the Governor to hold a new inquiry to establish the facts of the case of Shadrock Thompson. The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot suggests as an impartial investigating body, the Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching, as the most competent authority. Certainly the good name of the State should not rest under this implication if the preponderance of evidence is that it was in fact a suicide, and not in any sense an attack on the law by those who sought private vengeance.

Tuskegee Institute's records are always more conservative than those of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Tuskegee does not count miscellaneous killings, fights, or murders. Lynching, it holds, is where there is an attack on the law, an effort to take a prisoner away from officers, or to interfere with due process of the courts.

According to Tuskegee records, 1932 was more nearly free from the crime of lynching than any other year since Reconstruction. Eight instances of lynch law are reported, six of them in the South. Two victims of mob murder were white. Of the eight, only one was charged with criminal assault, one with attempted criminal assault, one with insulting women. Other offenses charged were murder, attempted murder, wounding an officer, dynamiting a store and threatening a man with a knife. The list by no means justifies the claim of defenders of mob violence that it is necessary to "protect Southern womanhood."

The Virginian-Pilot comments:

"The most important feature of the year's record is the decrease. If the Tuskegee figures are accepted, the eight lynchings of 1932 are t be compared with 13 in 1931, 21 i 1930 (an abnormal year), 10 in 192 11 in 1928, 16 in 1927, 30 in 1926 (another abnormal year), 17 in 1925, 1 in 1924, 33 in 1923, 57 in 1922, 64 i 1921 and increasingly large numbers for earlier years. The jump in 1926 is partly explained by unusual boom conditions in Florida which brought floating laborers and many disorders to that State. The later rise in 1931 is still unexplained. But regardless of these black marks the record improves. If it is still a ghastly commentary on our civilization that any lynchings are possible there is satisfaction that the curve has resumed its downward trend and is now at the lowest point on record."

The Baltimore Sun adds:

"The decline in the curve of violence ought not, however, to be taken as a pretext for a relaxation of the effort to stamp out this particularly obnoxious manifestation of lawlessness. On the contrary, it ought to spur every Commonwealth in which lynchings have recently occurred to a redoubled effort and a higher sense of responsibility. The complete suppression of lynch law cannot be achieved without a final drive on every front. The opportunity for Maryland to join in such a drive presents itself as the biennial session of the State Legi ture opens. One of the important asks before the session will be a consideration of measures to arm the State authorities with power adequately to deal with lynching cases."

The Virginia anti-lynching statute has been held up as a model for adoption in other States. Since both of the associations that have f years endeavored to keep an accur record of lynchings list a death in Virginia that local officials and outside inquirers have put down as suicide, it would seem that some form of investigation would now be in order.

North Carolina successfully stopped lynchings when it began sending members of such mobs to the penitentiary. Virginia hoped it had stopped it with the passing of the anti-lynching statute. If Shadrock Thompson was lynched, those who took part should be discovered and imprisoned. If he was not, the stain of a lynching in 1932 should not be allowed to rest on Virginia.

Easley, S. C. Progress
Thursday, January 12, 1933

LYNCHING RECORD FOR 1932 IS GIVEN

The following letter from R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee Institute, gives the record of lynchings and attempted lynchings in the United States for 1932:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932. I find, according to the records compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute that there were eight persons lynched in 1932. This is five less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; two less than the number 10 for 1929; three less than the number 11 for 1928 and eight less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; four were taken from jails and three rom officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of two of the victims were burned.

"There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In he seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, seven white en and 35 negroes, 33 men and two en, were thus saved from death at hands of mobs.

"Of the eight persons lynched, two were white and six were negro. The offenses charged were: Murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

"The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

Selmer, Tenn., Independent
Friday, January 13, 1933

SHELVING MOB LAW.

Civilization's fight against lynch law in the United States, which has made gains almost annually during the past half century, was reflected in the information about lynchings for 1932 made public the other day by Dr. R. R. Moton, president of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institutea, whcih showed that during the years just ended a low record of eight lynchings had been established.

This is five less than the number thirteen for 1931, thirteen less than the number twenty-one for 1930, two less than the number 10 for 1929, three less than the number eleven for 1928 and eight less than the number sixteen for 1927.

Going back still further, the real progress in the reduction of the number of lynchings is better illustrated. In 1922, a decade ago, there were fifty-seven lynchings, in 1912 there were sixty-four, in 1902 there were eighty-six and in 1892 there were 225.

The reduction is, of course, the result of a growing sentiment against mob action. It manifests itself not only in fewer instances in which mobs are formed but also in the determination of officers to protect the prisoners in their care against mobs. During the past year there were thirty-one instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, a total of forty-two persons being saved in this manner. Those courageous officers who thus protected their captives against mob violence are responsible for the fact that the lynching record was brought to a new low record last year For had the mobs been successful in obtaining and putting to death every person they sought during the past year the total lynched would have been fifty, greater than any figure since 1902.—Nashville Tennessean.

CHARLSTON, W. VA
MAIL
JAN 6 1933

Few Lynchings

Despite the widespread unrest which had a tendency to express itself in riotous outbreaks that marked 1932, lynchings numbered five less than in 1931. The total for the year was eight. This decline in mob activities gives a refreshing touch to the picture of conditions generally as affecting law and order.

The figures were made public in the annual report of Dr. R. R. Morton, principal of Tuskagee institute, who keeps tab on the country's lynchings. The report was not only encouraging as showing a decline over the previous year in the number of mob murders but also in the fact that the 1932 total represented a drop for each year since 1927. In the latter year, 16 lynchings occurred; in 1928, there were 11, in 1929, ten, while 1930 saw 21 lives taken by mob violence and 1931 had a record of 13.

The lynching victims included two whites and six Negroes. Lynchings occurred in Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, Florida, Kansas, Louisiana and Texas.

The improvement noted in the Morton report is a matter of gratification to all lovers of law and order.

BUTTE, MONT.
POST

JAN 9 1933

CURBING MOB MURDERS.

That mob murders are on the wane in the United States is the encouraging conclusion drawn from the annual report of the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, which lists eight lynchings in 1932. The number is the lowest yet reached, being three less than the previous low of 10 in 1929, five less than the 13 recorded in 1931 and six below the annual average for the past five years. Up to 10 years ago the average of such crimes was in excess of 100 a year, and a total of 4,780 persons have met death in this fashion in the 50 years for which records have been compiled.

Much of the progress recently made is credited to the efforts of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching, which now numbers more than 7,000 members and is represented in 1,300 towns and 575 counties. These women are banded together to refute the historic defense of lynching that it was to protect womanhood. In Mississippi, which has the largest Negro population of any state and which has led all the rest in the number of lynchings, they have promoted their preventive program to such good effect that there were no lynchings last year. Encouraged by that success, they are now inaugurating an aggressive campaign looking to "a lynchless South in 1933."

Probably the most effective work of the organization is in arousing public opinion to force peace officers to protect prisoners from mobs. There were 31 instances last year (27 of them in the Southern states) in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. In 24 of these the prisoners were removed or other precautions taken, while in seven armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Forty-two persons, including two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Since seven of the year's eight mob victims were taken either from jails or from officers, it is apparent that official zeal could have averted all but one of the sorry crimes. In fact, but few lynchings have been recorded that could not have been prevented had authorities performed their duties. There should be a united public opinion to force such action.

Wichita Falls, Tex
TIMES

JAN 3 1933

1932'S LYNCHINGS

According to data kept by Tuskegee institute, there were only eight lynchings in 1932. This was a smaller number than for any year since records have been kept. It compares with 13 in 1931, 21 in 1930, 10 in 1929, 11 in 1928 and 16 in 1927.

There was one lynching in each of eight states—Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia.

There were 31 instances, according to the report, in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, the lives of 42 persons which were thus threatened by mobs being saved.

These figures encourage the hope that the day is not far distant when this country shall be entirely free of the crime of lynching. It indicates that real progress is being made in the development of anti-lynching sentiment. The average number of lynchings in the first decade of this century was 88 per year; in the second decade, 61; in the third decade, 28. Ground is being steadily gained, but the task is not yet complete. It will not be complete until lynch law and the spirit in which it breeds are eradicated. And that will not happen until courts and peace officers have reached such a plane of efficiency that lynching sentiment has no occasion to manifest itself.

PORTLAND, ME.
PRESS HERALD

JAN 15 1933

Topics Talked About

THE LYNCHING EVIL, once such a scandal in the South has been pretty well eliminated, the efforts of the people of the South to cure it having wrought the very welcome reform.

According to the figures compiled by Tuskeegee Institute, the number of persons lynched in the United States last year was but eight, which is five less than 1932, 13 less than in 1930, two less than for 1929 etc. There was not more than one lynching in a single state and two were in states outside the black belt: one in Ohio and one in Kansas. The other states where these mob killings occurred were Arkansas, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Texas and Virginia.

Helping to bring about the change has been the determination of officers of the law to stop them, as is demonstrated by the fact that 31 were so prevented. Of these preventions four were in Northern and Western states and 27 in Southern states. Six of the eight victims were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

It will be seen that only in two cases of the eight were the lynchings provoked by the class of offenses for which they were generally perpetrated.

The stock excuse for the mob killings, such as once were so common in the black belt states, was that only by a reign of terror such as was inaugurated there, could their women be made safe.

Whether or not that was true once, it certainly is not true now. Order reigns in the South and the law is enforced as well there as elsewhere.

Other Papers Say—

Defender

1-21-33

Chicago, Ill.

FEWER LYNCHINGS.

[New York Evening Post]

Eight persons were lynched during 1932, of whom two were white. Two of the lynchings occurred in the North, one each in Ohio and Kansas. The number thus slain by mobs is less than the number for any other recent year, the figures being: 1931, 13; 1930, 21; 1929, 10; 1928, 11; 1927, 16. The other side of the picture is decidedly encouraging. There were no fewer than 31 occasions on which officers of the law prevented lynchings and 27 of these were in southern states. In seven instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers.

A list of causes for the illegal executions shows afresh how little there is in the argument that they are the result of anger over the mistreatment of white women. The offenses charged against the men lynched in 1932 were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; insulting women, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1. These figures are issued by the Tuskegee department of records and research without comment.

When the department began this compliation there was little to record regarding the endeavors of officials to prevent lynchings. The space which it is now necessary to give to these activities is highly gratifying to every citizen worthy of the name. It points to the approach of the time when we shall be rid of a worse barbarism than slavery itself.

HERALD

Yoakum, Tex.

JAN 1 1933

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE REPORTS ON LYNCHINGS

Yoakum Herald,
Dear Sirs:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932. I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute that there were eight persons lynched in 1932. This is five less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; four were taken from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of two of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, seven white men and 35 negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the eight persons lynched, two were white and six were negro. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. Morton, Principal

Lynchings- 1932
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.-Dec.

3843

Jackson, Miss., News
Sunday, January 1, 1933

LOW LYNCHING RECORD

Only eight persons, two whites and six negroes, were lynched in the United States during the year 1932, according to a compilation made by Tuskegee Institute, and Mississippi was not among the states in which these events occurred.

The states in which lynchings happened, one in each state, were Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas, and Virginia. One was lynched for murder, one for attempted murder, one for criminal assault, one for attempted criminal assault, one for wounding an officer, one for dynamiting a store, one for insulting a woman, and one for assaulting a man with a knife.

There were 31 instances, according to the compilation, in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 27 of these instances being in Southern states, and demonstrating that a courageous officer can thwart mobs if he makes up his mind to do so.

Seven of the persons lynched were taken from jails, three from officers outside of jails, and the bodies of two victims were burned.

The lynching record is the lowest for many years. It is five less than the record for 1931, thirteen less than the number for 1930, two less than the number for 1929, three less than the number for 1928, and eight less than the number for 1927.

Wetumpka Herald
Thursday, January 5, 1933

Fewer Lychings In 1932 Reported

Fewer lynchings took place in the United States during the past year than during any other year since 1927, according to records compiled by the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

Comparative figures are: In 1932, eight; in 1931, 13; in 1930, 21; in 1929 10; in 1928, 11 and in 1927, 16.

According to the records, seven of the eight victims during 1932 were in the hands of the law when taken by mobs, and four of the seven were taken from jails. The bodies of two of the victims were burned, the records showed.

"There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings," the report stated. "Four of these were in Northern and Western states, and 27 were in Southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners threatened were removed

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EUFAULA, ALA.
TRIBUNE
DEC 31 1933

EIGHT PERSONS LYNCHED IN '32

28

President Moton, Tuskegee, Compiles Statistics Showing 2 White, 6 Negro

Following is the annual report on lynchings in the United States, the records being kept by President R. R. Moton of Tuskegee Institute:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932. I find according to the records compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern and western states and 27 in southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were negro. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.
AGE HERALD
JAN 1 1933

EIGHT LYNCHINGS IS 1932'S RECORD

Thirty-One Instances Cited In Which Officers Thwarted Designs Of Mobs

TUSKEGEE—Only eight lynchings marred the enforcement of law in the United States in 1932, according to the annual report on illegal executions compiled by the Department of Records and Research, Tuskegee Institute.

This number of lynchings is the lowest in the nation for years. Records for recent years are: 1931, 13; 1930, 21; 1929, 10; 1928, 11; 1927, 16.

Of the eight persons lynched, six were Negroes and two were white. Offenses charged were: Murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

Eight states were represented by one lynching each, Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia.

Seven of the eight persons lynched were in the hands of the law, four were taken from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails. The bodies of two were burned.

There were 31 instances, the report points out, in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, four in Northern and Western states and 27 in Southern states. In 21 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the other seven instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, seven white men and 35 negroes, 33 men and two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Chattanooga, Tenn.
NEWS
DEC 31 1933

Open Forum

Lynchings in 1932.

Editor The News:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932. I find, according to the records compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskegee institute, that there were eight persons lynched in 1932. This is five less than the number, thirteen, for 1931; thirteen less than the number, twenty-one for 1930; two less than the number ten, for 1929; three less than the number, eleven, for 1928, and eight less than the number, sixteen, for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; four were taken from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of two of the victims were burned.

There were thirty-one instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern and western states and twenty-seven in southern states. In twenty-four of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of forty-two persons, seven white men and thirty-five Negroes, thirty-three men and two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the eight persons lynched, two were white and six were Negro. The offenses charged were: Murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1, and Virginia, 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal Tuskegee Institute.
Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 30.

ANNISTON, ALA.
STAR
JAN 2 - 1933

NUMBER OF LYNCHINGS SHOW DECREASE IN 1932

According to the report of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute issued yesterday the number of lynchings in 1932 was well below that of any other recent year. Records compiled by the Department of Records and Research at the Tuskegee school show that there were eight persons lynched last year, which is five less than the number recorded in 1931.

The total for last year was 13 less than that of 1930; two less than in 1929; three below the 1928 record, and eight less than the number reported lynched in 1927. One observes, therefore, that the contrast is favorable when each year of the six-year period is compared with the record in 1932.

An interesting point is the fact that no state recorded more than one mob killing in 1932. This is unusual, for generally in the past some states have reported more than one lynching in the course of the twelve-month periods.

As usual the greater number of lynchings occurred in the Southern States, although Kansas and Ohio are on the list. Other states that reported one lynching are Arkansas, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Texas and Virginia. It is a source of gratification that Alabama is not among the number in which men were punished by death without the benefit of a trial by law and by persons without authority to administer the punishment. Alabama has gone without lynchings most of the time in recent years and it is to be hoped that her record will not be marred in the future.

Of the eight persons lynched last year, seven were in the hands of the law, four having been taken from jails and three from officers following arrests and before the prisoners had been jailed. But the record in regard to instances in which officers of the law thwarted the efforts of mobs bent on killing prisoners is impressive. Officers prevented 31 lynchings and saved 42 persons from mobs, the report shows. Four of the instances in which the officers were credited with saving the lives of prisoners were in Northern and Western states, while 27 were in the South.

In 24 instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken to foil the mobs. In the other seven cases armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Of the persons thus saved seven were white men, 33 were negro men and two were negro women.

The eight lynchings included six negroes and two white men, proving that mobs sometimes may vent their wrath on whites as well as blacks. The offenses charged included dynamiting a store and threatening men with a knife. One was charged with wounding an officer of the law.

The lynching record this year, even though the number shows a decrease, is not one of which we may boast. But we hope that the decrease means a growing sentiment in opposition to mob crimes.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.
MORNING UNION
JAN 2 1933

LYNCHINGS IN 1932

Total of Eight Is Five Less Than in 1931, 13 Less Than in 1930.

To the Editor of The Union.

Sir: I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932. I find, according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were eight persons lynched in 1932. This is five less than the number, 13, for 1931; 13 less than the number, 21, for 1930; two less than the number, 10, for 1929; three less than the number, 11, for 1928, and eight less than the number 16, for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; four were taken from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of two of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, seven white men and 35 Negroes, 33 men and two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the eight persons lynched, two were white and six were Negro. The offenses charged were: Murder, one; attempted murder, one; rape, one; attempted rape, one; wounding officer of the law, one; dynamiting store one; insulting women, one; threatening men with a knife, one.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follow: Arkansas, 1; Florida 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1, and Virginia, 1.

R. R. MOTON.
Principal Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Dec. 30, 1932.

DANVILLE, VA.
REGISTER
JAN 4 - 1933

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AS DEFENDANT.

Both Tuskegee Institute and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People both list a lynching in Virginia for 1932. The case is that of Shadrock Thompson, a Negro, whose body was found n[illegible]enton several weeks after the commission o[illegible]inal assault for which he was being sought. The lynching record for 1932 is the best in the history of the country, or more accurately the South, to which lynching as a social custom has been restricted in recent years. Six of the eight lynchings last year, for instance, occurred in the South. The Southern lynchings have the usual etiology. The significant conclusion to be drawn from this year's lynching record is that economic depression acts as a depressant of the passions of mob violence. In 1926 when prosperity was at its peak and even the small, backward, far Southern communities in which lynchings occur were inflated, there were eighty lynchings. The unrest of 1930 resulted in some stimulation of the lynching impulses. No case whatever could be made out for economic depression as the cure for lynching. What is demonstrated is that it has operated as a stabilizer of the social strata in which lynchings occur. The eventual and the only cure is the civilizing and stabilizing factor of education.

The Tuskegee and the N. A. A. C. P. lists of lynchings are usually at variance with the lists of the Southern Commission on Lynchings, an affiliate of the Southern Inter-Racial Commission which makes a more careful investigation and presents a better documented report. This authoritative commission upon closer investigation will undoubtedly erase the name of Virginia from the lists of states that had a lynching in 1932. For an invesigation by the Commonwealth's Attorney of Fauquier County, a grand jury, and a Richmond newspaper failed to disclose any evidence on which to base the conclusion that the case was other than indicated by the actual facts—a suicide.

The Attorney-General of the State is really the defendant of the State's reputation in such cases. A law sponsored by the Byrd Administration making lynching an offense against the State has given Attorney-General Saunders final jurisdiction in cases of suspected lynchings. In dubious cases if he exercises his authority there can be no question. If he fails to do so, there is no way in which such charges as those made by these two Negro organizations can be effectively answered except by the official local investigation, often unsatisfactory, and unofficial investigations. There can be no substitute for an official State investigation, which cannot be accused of entertaining local prejudice.

SELMA, ALA.
TIMES-JOURNAL
JAN 7 - 1933

PROGRESS

Eight persons lynched in 1932.

According to records compiled by the department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute this is five less than in 1931; thirteen less than in 1930; two less than in 1929; three less than in 1928, and eight less than in 1927.

The report shows that in 31 instances the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern and western states and 27 in southern states.

Mississippi has a clean slate for the year—not a single case wherein "mob rule" dealed summary justice (or injustice).

No state "boasts" more than one "neck-tie party." The following states had one lynching each in the total of eight: Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia.

A good record—in comparison with preceding years—but still room for improvement.—Meridian Star.

TUSKEGEE REPORTS EIGHT LYNCHINGS

St. Louis Mo
1-13-33
Argus

According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and and 35 Negroes, 33 men and 2 women were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were Negro. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting woman, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas 1; and Virginia, 1.

Only 8 Lynchings in 1932 According To Tuskegee

Age
1-14-33
New York
N.Y.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA.—According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1

Poplarville, Miss. Press
Thursday, January 5, 1933

Lynchings During 1932

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932. I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute that there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

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lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 Negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were

white and 6 were Negro. The offenses charged were murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatning men with a knife, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1;

and Virginia, 1.—Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Inst. R. R. Moton.

Wrightsville, Ga., Headlight
Thursday, January 5, 1933

GEORGIA HAS LYNCHLESS YEAR, TUSKEGEE REPORTS

The state of Georgia went through 1932 without a lynching, according to reports issued by Tuskegee Institue in Tuskegee, Ala. Of the eight recorded by the institution, one occurred each in Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentuckey, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia.

Officers of the law, the report set forth, prevented lynchings in 31 instances involving 42 persons. In 24 of the instances, the prisoners were removed or the gurds augmented or other precautions taken. In the other seven, armed force was used to repeal the mobs.

Of the eight persons lynched, two were white and six were negroes, the report continued. The offenses charged were murder, 1; attempted murder, 1 rape 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

Lynchings-1932

Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan.-Dec.

3844

Chattanooga, Tenn., News
Saturday, December 31, 1932

Lynchings in 1932.

Editor The News:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932. I find, according to the records compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskegee institute, that there were eight persons lynched in 1932. This is five less than the number, thirteen, for 1931; thirteen less than the number, twenty-one, for 1930; two less than the number, ten, for 1929; three less than the number, eleven, for 1928, and eight less than the number, sixteen, for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; four were taken from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of two of the victims were burned.

There were thirty-one instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern and western states and twenty-seven in southern states. In twenty-four of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of forty-two persons, seven white men and thirty-five Negroes, thirty-three men and two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the eight persons lynched, two were white and six were Negro. The offenses charged were: Murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1, and Virginia, 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal Tuskegee Institute.
Tuskegee. Ala., Dec. 30.

Knoxville, Tenn., Journal
Saturday, December 31, 1932

Lynchings Decrease, School Report Shows

Lynchings decreased in 1932, being less than during any year during the last six, records compiled by Tuskegee institute show.

There were only eight lynchings in 1932, one each in Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas, and Virginia. There were 13 in 1931, 21 in 1930, 10 in 1929, 11 in 1928, 16 in 1927. Six of the persons lynched were negroes.

There were 31 instances in which officers prevented lynchings by removing prisoners or using force

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Newport News, Va., Times-Herald
Monday, January 2, 1933

LYNCHINGS IN 1932

Evidence of the growing repugnance of the American people to mob violence and a more zealous defense of prisoners by officers of law is given in the report from Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute for the year of 1932, listing eight lynchings for the year. The total is lower than for any prior year since 1927 and is two-thirds the number lynched in 1931.

After listing the number lynched, the report, contained in a letter from Principal R. R. Moton of Tuskegee, continues:

This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; 4 of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 Negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were Negro. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder,1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1;, and Virginia, 1.

In at least one instance, the Tuskegee figures have been openly challenged or disproved. The Virginia authorities in the community where it is charged one lynching by hanging took place, are convinced that the alleged victim was a suicide. We may then eliminate at least one alleged case of lynching and conclude that the revulsion against lynchings is even stronger than the Tuskegee report indicates.

The day is surely approaching when mob murder or attemped murder will not be tolerated, even by those communities in the South, North and West where lynchings or attempted lynchings occurred this year. The report annually is brighter and better. A few years at most should wipe this stigma from every community in the United States.

Kingston, N. C. Free Press
Monday, January 2, 1933

D r. Robert Moto esident of the noted negro educational instituti at Tuskegee, has given out his annual report on lynchings in this country. Happily the year 1932 recorded fewer outlaw killings than in any year since Tuskegee Institute has been keeping the statistics—a period of more than 40 years. Mobs took only 8 lives in 1932, this being 5 less than in 1931 and 13 less than 1930. The showing is gratifying.

Tifton, Ga., Gazette
Saturday, December 31, 1932

EIGHT LYNCHINGS IN 1932

ONE EACH IN EIGHT STATES

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., December 31. —According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute there were eight persons lynched in 1932. This is five less than the number thirteen for 1931; thirteen less than the number twenty-one for 1930; two less than the number ten for 1929; three less than the number eleven for 1928 and eight less than the number sixteen for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; four were taken from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of two of the victims were burned.

There were thirty-one instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, four of these were in northern and western states and twenty-seven in southern states. In twenty-four of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of forty-two persons, seven white men and thirty-five negroes, thirty-two men and two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the eight persons lynched, two were white and six were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, one; attempted murder, one; rape, one; attempted rape, one; wounding officer of the law, one; dynamiting store, one; insulting women, one; threatening men with a knife, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, one; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Ohio, one; Texas, one, and Virginia, one.

Dawson, Ga., News
Thursday, December 29, 1932

Lynchings Decline 22 Per Cent During Year

Figures Compiled by Department of Research, Tuskegee Institute

According to the records compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute, there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is five less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of two of the victims were burned.

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Of the 8 persons lynched 2 were white and 6 were negro. The offenses charged were: Murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state were as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1, and Virginia, 1.

Monday, January 2, 1933

Lynchings In 1932 But Eight, Lowest Number In Years

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—(AP)—Eight lynchings took place in 1932, the lowest number in years, the department of records and research Tuskegee institute reported today.

Of the number, six were negroes, and the charges included murder, one; attempted murder, one; criminal attack, one; attempted attack, one; wounding officer of the law and dynamiting store, one; insulting women, one; and threatening men with a knife, one.

Eight states reported one lynching each, the report said. They were Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia.

The report said four of those lynched were taken from jails and three were taken from officers outside of jails. Thirty-one instances were reported where officers prevented lynchings.

Lumberton, N. C. Robersonian
Monday, January 2, 1933

FEWER LYNCHINGS

The following information regarding lynchings is given out by Robert R. Morton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial, from records compiled in the department of records and research of the Alabama colored institute which was founded by the late Booker Washington:

There were 8 persons lynched in the United States in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, 4 in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were negro. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1 attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The states in which lynching occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; Virginia, 1.

North Carolina again has a clean record in this respect. The number of persons lynched is the smallest of any year during the past five, but the up-and-down record does not support argument that mob murder is definitely on the decrease. There were fewer lynchings in 1931 than in 1929 or 1928, but the high mark for the lustrum of 21 in 1930 was reached after a decrease for two years from the 16 victims in 1927. At least it is to be hoped that 1933 will set another new low.

Kingston, N. C. Free Press
Monday, January 2, 1933

ONLY 8 PERSONS LYNCHED IN '32; NONE THIS STATE

Mobs Took Lives in Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia

Tuskegee, Ala., Jan. 2.—(U.P.)—Records of Tuskegee Institute reveal there were only eight persons lynched in the United States last year. The number was five fewer than in 1931, 13 fewer than in 1930, two fewer than in 1929.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern and Western states and 27 in Southern. Armed force was used to repel would-be-lynchers in seven cases. Forty-two persons were saved from mobs.

Of the persons lynched six were negroes, two whites. Offenses charged were: Murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred were. Alabama, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia, one each.

Spartanburg, S. C. [illegible]
Sunday, January 1, 1933

YEAR'S LYNCHINGS ARE BELOW NORMAL

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31 (AP).—Eight lynchings took place in 1932 the lowest number in years, the department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute reported today.

Of the number, six were negroes and the charges included murder one; attempted murder, one; criminal attack, one; attempted criminal attack, one; wounding officer of the law, and dynamiting store one; insulting women, one; and threatening men with a knife. one

Eight states reported one lynching each, the report said. They were: Arkansas, Florida, Kansas Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia

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Monday, January 2, 1933

NUMBER OF LYNCHINGS SHOW DECREASE IN 1932

According to the report of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute issued yesterday the number of lynchings in 1932 was well below that of any other recent year. Records compiled by the Department of Records and Research at the Tuskegee school show that there were eight persons lynched last year, which is five less than the number recorded in 1931.

The total for last year was 13 less than that of 1930; two less than in 1929; three below the 1928 record, and eight less than the number reported lynched in 1927. One observes, therefore, that the contrast is favorable when each year of the six-year period is compared with the record in 1932.

An interesting point is the fact that no state recorded more than one mob killing in 1932. This is unusual, for generally in the past some states have reported more than one lynching in the course of the twelve-month periods.

As usual the greater number of lynchings occurred in the Southern States, although Kansas and Ohio are on the list. Other states that reported one lynching are Arkansas, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Texas and Virginia. It is a source of gratification that Alabama is not among the number in which men were punished by death without the benefit of a trial by law and by persons without authority to administer the punishment. Alabama has gone without lynchings most of the time in recent years and it is to be hoped that her record will not be marred in the future.

Of the eight persons lynched last year, seven were in the hands of the law, four having been taken from jails and three from officers following arrests and before the prisoners had been jailed. But the record in regard to instances in which officers of the law thwarted the efforts of mobs bent on killing prisoners is impressive. Officers prevented 31 lynchings and saved 42 persons from mobs, the report shows. Four of the instances in which the officers were credited with saving the lives of prisoners were in Northern and Western states, while 27 were in the South.

In 24 instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken to foil the mobs. In the other seven cases armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. Of the persons thus saved seven were white men, 33 were negro men and two were negro women.

The eight lynchings included six negroes and two white men, proving that mobs sometimes may vent their wrath on whites as well as blacks. The offenses charged included dynamiting a store and threatening men with a knife. One was charged with wounding an officer of the law.

The lynching record this year, even though the number shows a decrease, is not one of which we may boast. But we hope that the decrease means a growing sentiment in opposition to mob crimes

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Millen, Ga. News
Thursday, December 29, 1932

LYNCHING RECORD

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932: I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930, 2 less than the number 10 for 1929, 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies or 2 of the victims were burned.

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Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempting murder, 1, rape, 1, attempted rape, 1, wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1, insulting women, 1, threatening men with knife, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1, Florida 1, Kansas 1. Kentucky 1, Louisiana 1, Ohio, 1, Texas 1, and Virginia 1.

—R. R. Morton.

Statesville, N. C. Daily
Sunday, January 1, 1933

ght Persons Lynched in 1932

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Jan. 2.—According to the records compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute, there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails, the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern and western States and 27 in southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were negro. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Flroida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

Salisbury, N. C. Post
Sunday, January 1, 1933

Eight Lynchings In United States During Last Year

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 31 (AP)—Eight lynchings took place in 1932. the lowest number in years, the department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute reported today.

Of the number, six were negroes, and the charges included murder, one; attempted murder, one; criminal attack, one; attempted attack, one; wounding officer of the law, and dynamiting store, one; insulting women, one, and threatening men with a knife, one.

Eight states reported one lynching each, the report said. They were: Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia.

The report said four of those lynched were taken from jails and three were taken from officers outside of jails. Thirty-one instances were reported where officers prevented lynchings.

Lynchings - 1932
6
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

3845

The Lynching Record For The Past Year

Amsterdam News 1/14/33

Only eight lynchings were recorded in the United States in 1932. This is the smallest number for any year for which there is any record The lowest previous record was for 1929, when there were 10 lynchings. The figures for other recent years are 16 in 1927, 11 in 1928, 21 in 1930, and 13 in 1931. When we remember that a few decades ago the number of lynchings in a single year simetimes ran into the hundreds, we cannot fail to be impressed with the progress that has been made in eradicating this most barbarous form of mob violence.

As long as there are any lynchings at all, it should not be said that a lynching record, however low, is something to be proud of. We can be really proud when the time comes that there are no lynchings at all. Nevertheless, the rather steady decline in this horrible practice is encouraging. It should not be long now before we shall see a year pass which will not be marred by illegal executions. And thereafter we may hope that a year in which lynchings take place will be the exception rather than the rule.

Of the eight persons lynched in 1932, six were Negroes and two were white men. One lynching each occurred in Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia. Seven of the victims were taken from the hands of the law, four being removed from jails and three taken from officers outside of jails. There were, however, 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented mob violence, according to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute. This indicates a growing resistance to mobs on the part of officers of the law. The determination of officers to prevent lynchings must be a part of the effort to eradicate such acts of violence. But a more important part of the effort must be the continued and increasing influence of public opinion against the practice. It is not enough that officers of the law should prevent lynchings. The final victory of civilization over barbarism in this respect will come only when there are no longer any attempts at lynching.

ROME, N. Y.
SENTINEL
DEC 31 1932

More Dependable Statistics

Only a week ago the Sentinel expressed doubt as to the accuracy of the announcement of the League of Struggle for Negro Rights that lynching was on the increase in the United States, 37 persons having been lynched in this country and its possessions" in the past year. Now comes Robert R. Moton, the Negro principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, announcing the result of the annual compilation as to lynchings of the department of records and research of his institution, substantiating other statements that 1932 was showing a decrease in the number of illicit executions.

According to the Tuskegee record, there were only eight victims of lynching in the United States in 1932—"5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928, and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927." Of the persons lynched this year, 2 were white and 6 were Negro. Seven were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of two of the victims were burned.

Tuskegee does not stop there in painting a favorable picture. It notes that there were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers.

Of course, there should not have been even eight persons killed under these conditions. Lynching has made us stand before the people of numbers of other countries as barbarians, the while we have been assuming the attitude of high virtue before the world. In very few instances can officers of the law put up a satisfactory excuse when their prisoners are taken from them, so prone are mobs to give way before any spirited resistance on the part of one or two brave men.

WALTHAM, MASS.
NEWS-TRIBUNE
JAN 3 - 1933

Better record.

It is gratifying to record one improvement that was made in the year just closed. There were fewer lynchings and a larger number of attempted lynchings foiled by the vigilance and courage of officers of the law. According to the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute there were eight accused persons summarily disposed of by the mob in 1932, as against thirteen for the previous year.

Eight states were represented in the list, with one lynching set down to each. These were Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia. The crimes of which the victims were accused included attacks on women in but two instances. Of the persons lynched six were negroes and two whites.

Thirty-one instances are noted where officers of the law prevented lynchings, twenty-seven of them in southern states. In view of the statistics for some previous years the comparatively small number is encouraging, but the fact that lynchings were prevented in the section of the country where it has been most common is an indication that officers of the law are coming to a larger understanding of their obligations.

CHICAGO, ILL.
NEWS
JAN 6 1933

A NEW LOW RECORD IN LYNCHINGS.

In its annual report on lynchings, the Tuskegee Institute shows that only eight persons—six of them Negroes—were killed by lawless mobs in the United States in 1932. That number compares with thirteen in the previous year, and is the smallest in the tragic history of the lynching evil.

The reduction was not accidental. For several years the decline of mob violence has been steady and practically uninterrupted. Throughout the southern states the campaign against it has enlisted both white and colored organizations and individuals in increasing numbers. The women of Dixie have effected a special organization to eradicate lynching. The press and public opinion have backed the movement. Laws have been enacted to punish willful negligence or weakness on the part of officials in charge of prisoners.

There is more to be done, for even eight lynchings a year are eight too many. The time has come to put an end to a crime which has brought just reproach on American civilization.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.
MORNING TRIBUNE
JAN 9 1933

FEWER LYNCHINGS.

Eight persons were lynched during 1932, of whom two were white. Two of the lynchings occurred in the north, one each in Ohio and Kansas. The number thus slain by mobs is less than the number for any other recent year, the figures being: 1931, 13; 1930, 21; 1929, 10; 1928, 11; 1927, 16. The other side of the picture is decidedly encouraging. There were no fewer than 31 occasions on which officers of the law prevented lynchings and 27 of these were in southern states. In seven instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A list of the causes for the illegal executions shows afresh how little there is in the argument that they are the result of anger over the mistreatment of white women. The offenses charged against the men lynched in 1932 were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; insulting women, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1. These figures are issued by the Tuskegee department of records and research without comment. When the department began this compilation there was little to record regarding the endeavors of officials to prevent lynchings. The space which it is now necessary to give to these activities is highly gratifying to every citizen worthy of the name. It points to the approach of the time when we shall be rid of a worse barbarism than slavery itself.—New York Post.

New Orleans, La. States
Thursday, January 5, 1933

Lynching Record

TUSKEGEE figures on the lynchings during 1932 in the United States are unusually good. The number was smaller than in any year for a long time, with much efficiency shown by law officers in the suppression of mob violence.

Only eight persons were unlawfully executed by mobs during the twelve months. In thirty-one instances police or county guardians of the peace thwarted mob murder attempts, twenty-seven of these instances occurring in the South. The campaign of Southern newspapers and leading Southern citizens of all classes to relieve the South of the stigma of mob government is apparently having its effect. Incidentally, the campaign is being helped by the constant threat of a Federal statute that would give the Washington government jurisdiction in cases of lynching.

Of the eight persons whose lives were illegally taken two were white. That refutes the charge that Southern lynchings only happen in the case of negro violators of the law.

It is to be hoped that the low record of eight set by 1932 will mark the maximum and that there will be a steady decline of mob outbreaks until the time comes when resort to violence in the administration of "justice" in the South will become a thing of the past.

That day can be hastened with the co-operation of leaders of the negro race. They should devote themselves zealously to the task of teaching its members always to live within the law.

Durham, N. C. Sun
Thursday, January 5, 1933

LYNCHINGS ON WANE IN SOUTH

North Carolina Did Not Have Single Lynching During the Past Year

North Carolina was free from the lynching stigma in 1932 but eight persons were lynched in some of the southern states. Copies of a report prepared by R. R. Moton, president of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute in Tuskegee, Ala., in which the lynching evil in the south was discussed, have been received here.

Lynchings are gradually growing smaller in numbers each year, according to the report. While only eight persons were lynched last year a total of 13 lost their lives at the hands of mobs in 1931 and 21 in 1930.

Seven of the persons lynched last year were in the custody of officers of the law when they were taken by infuriated mobs and lynched. Four of them were removed from jail when the officers were overpowered. Bodies of two of the victims were burned.

Six of the persons lynched during the year were Negroes. Offenses charged against the victims were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; criminal assault, 1; attempted criminal assault, 1; wounding an officer of the law, 1; dynamiting a store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with knife, 1.

Texas was credited with two lynchings last year while Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio and Virginia had one each.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings last year, the report shows. Four of these were in northern and western states and 27 in the southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed. the guards augmented or other precautions taken for the protection of the prisoners. In the other seven instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, seven white men, 33 Negro men and two Negro women, were saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Orangeburg S.C. Democrat
Jan, 12, 1933.

Fewer Lynchings.

The number of lynchings during 1932 were less than those in recent years. The figures of the Tuskegee Institute are eight and those of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People are even, the discrepancy being explained because of different definitions used by the two organizations in defining what a lynching is. Figures for previous years running back from 1932 are 13, 21, 10, 11, and 16 in 1927.

Southern sentiment has mobilized against lawless killings, although it is only fair to bear in mind that the South is not the only region where groups take the law in their own hands. Southern women, in particular, have publicly expressed condemnation of lynchings, and their leadership causes the Boston *Globe* to say that "these women deserve the hearty support of enlightened public opinion everywhere. They are doing for the honor of their States a work which will one day be recognized as heroic." There is also a growing determination upon the part of officers of the law to protect their prisoners in their custody.

HARTFORD, CONN.
TIMES

JAN 9 1933

Still Eight Too Many.

In his report on the number of lynchings in the United States during 1932, Principal R. R. Moton of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, states that eight persons, two whites and six negroes, were killed by lawless mobs. It is gratifying to note that the number is the smallest in any of the last five years. In 1931, lynchings numbered 13; in 1930, 21; and ~~10, 11 and~~ 16 in each of the three preceding years. Also, it may be noted with satisfaction that officers of the law resisted the unruly mobs with increasing effectiveness to prevent lynchings in 31 instances, thereby saving 42 persons from violent death at the hands of the vengeance-mad rabble.

The crimes in connection with which the eight lynchings took place included murder, attempted-murder, rape, attempted-rape, wounding officer of the law, dynamiting store, insulting women and threatening men with a knife. This wide diversity of crime shows that the mob's vengeance springs from general racial hostility rather than from a particular abhorrence regarding any single offense.

Improvement in the country's lynching figures is one of the standing challenges to all the agencies which are working for racial understanding and justice for all. Eight violent deaths are an outrageous penalty to pay for senseless rage on the part of a crowd of ostensibly decent people. Education and the firm arm of the law officer, supported by force of arms if necessary, may not rest until the lynching disgrace is completely wiped from the record.

SALEM, ORE.
CAPITAL JOURNAL

JAN 2 [illegible]

REPORT MADE ON LYNCHINGS

Robert R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee normal and industrial institute in Alabama has issued his annual report of investigations into the number of lynchings in the United States, showing a decrease in 1932 as compared with other recent years. He says:

"I find according to the records compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were eight persons lynched in 1932. This is five less than the number of 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; two less than the number 10 for 1929; three less than the number 11 for 1928 and eight less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; four were taken from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails. The bodies of two of the victims were burned.

"There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern and western states and 27 in southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, seven white men and 35 negroes, 33 men and two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

"Of the eight persons lynched, two were white and six were negro. The offenses charged were: Murder one, attempted murder one, rape one, attempted rape one, wounding officer of the law one, dynamiting store one, insulting woman one, threatening men with a knife one.

"The states in which lynchings occurred, there being one in each state, are: Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia."

Greenville, Miss. Times
Monday, January 2, 1933

CLEAN SLATE FOR MISSISSIPPI

For the first time since we can remember, Mississippi has a clean slate as regards lynchings for one year. There isn't a mark against the state for for 1933 so far as official records are concerned.

An official report coming from Tuskegee Institute, which for several years has kept a record and the causes of lynchings, shows that eight persons were lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928, and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched in 1932 were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside the jails. The bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

Of the 8 persons lynched in 1932, two were white and six Negro. The offenses charged were: Murder 1, attempted murder 1, rape 1, attempted rape 1, wounding officer of the law 1, dynamiting store 1, insulting women 1, threatening men with knife 1.

There was one lynching in each of the following states: Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern and Western states and 27 in Southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 Negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Law enforcement officers of Mississippi are to be commended for the courage and ability they displayed in outwitting angry mobs which sought revenge for crime that deserved the extreme penalty. They have kept the slate clean for Mississippi, while Ohio and Kansas, which have heretofore condemned Mississippi for the lawlessness in which they dealt with criminals, have each perpetrated that which they were so profuse in flouting their innocence.

Winder, Ga. News
Friday, January 13, 1933

LYNCHINGS IN 1932

There were 8 lynchings in this country in 1932, as follows: Arkansas 1; Florida 1; Kansas 1; Kentucky 1; Louisiana 1; Ohio 1; Texas 1; Virginia 1. Of the persons lynched two were white and six colored. The offenses charged were: murder 1; attempted murder 1; rape 1; attempted rape 1; wounding officer of the law 1; dynamiting store 1; insulting women 1; threatining men with knife 1.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings

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Trenton, Tenn. Gazette
Thursday, January 5, 1933

Shelving Mob Law

(The Nashville Tennessean)

Civilization's fight against lynch law in the United States, which has made gains almost annually during the past half century, was reflected in the information about lynchings for 1932 made public the other day by Dr. R. R. Moton, president of the Tuskegee Normay and Industrial institute, which showed that during the year just ended a low record of eight lynchings had been established.

This is five less than the number thirteen for 1931, thirteen less than the number twenty-one for 1930, two less than the number of ten for 1929, three less than the number eleven for 1928, and eight less than the number sixteen for 1927.

Going back still further, the real progress in the reduction of the number of lynchings is better illustrated. In 1922, a decade ago, there were fifty-seven lynchings, in 1912 there were sixty-four, in 1902 there were eighty-six and in 1892 there were 255.

The reduction is, of course, the result of a growing sentiment against mob action. It manifests itself not only in fewer instances in which mobs are formed but also in the determination of officers to protect the prisoners in their care against mobs. During the past year there were thirty-one instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, a total of forty-two persons being saved in this manner. Those courageous officers who thus protected their captives against mob violence are responsible for the fact that the lynching record was brought to a new low record last year. For had the mobs been successful in obtaining and putting to death every person they sought during the past year the total lynched would have been fifty, greater than any figure since 1902.

Lynchings-1932
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

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MESSENGER
Camden, S.C.
JAN 5 1933

CONCERNING LYNCHINGS

The following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932 has been received by [illegible] from R. R. Moton, principal Tuskegee Norman and Industrial Institute, Alabama:

"I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932. I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute that there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 Negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were Negro. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1."

Harriman, Tenn., Record
Thursday, January 5, 1933

Eight Persons Lynched in 1932

Tuskegee Institute Gives Information Concerning Lynchings For Year 1932

According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute there were eight persons lynched in 1932. This is five less than the number thirteen for 1931; thirteen less than the number twenty-one for 1930; two less than the number ten for 1929; three less than the number eleven for 1928 and eight less than the number sixteen for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; four were taken from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of two of the victims were burned.

There were thirty-one instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern and Western States and twenty-seven in Southern States. In twenty-four of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of forty-two persons, seven white men and thirty-five Negroes, thirty-three men and two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the eight persons lynched, two were white and six were Negro. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia. 1.

Florala, Ala., News
Thursday, January 5, 1933

Lynching Record for 1932

The following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932 has been given out by R. R. Moton, principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, who says:

"I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskege Institute, that there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia. 1."

Kershaw, S. C., Era
Wednesday, January 4, 1933

Lynchings During 1932

Editor of The Era:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932. I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

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The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. Morton.
Principal.

Thursday, January 5, 1933

Eight Lynchings In U. S. in 1932

According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, there were 8 persons lynched in the United States in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

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The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Ohio, 1; Louisiana, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA.
NEWS

JAN 5 1933

The Lynching Record For The Past Year

Only eight lynchings were recorded in the United States in 1932. This is the smallest number for any year for which there is any record. The lowest previous record was for 1929, when there were 10 lynchings. The figures for other recent years are 16 in 1927, 11 in 1928, 21 in 1930, and 13 in 1931. When we remember that a few decades ago the number of lynchings in a single year simetimes ran into the hundreds, we cannot fail to be impressed with the progress that has been made in eradicating this most barbarous form of mob violence.

As long as there are any lynchings at all, it should not be said that a lynching record, however low, is something to be proud of. We can be really proud when the time comes that there are no lynchings at all. Nevertheless, the rather steady decline in this horrible practice is encouraging. It should not be long now before we shall see a year pass which will not be marred by illegal executions. And thereafter we may hope that a year in which lynchings take place will be the exception rather than the rule.

Of the eight persons lynched in 1932, six were Negroes and two were white men. One lynching each occurred in Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia. Seven of the victims were taken from the hands of the law, four being removed from jails and three taken from officers outside of jails. There were, however, 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented mob violence, according to the records compiled by Tuskegee Institute. This indicates a growing resistance to mobs on the part of officers of the law. The determination of officers to prevent lynchings must be a part of the effort to eradicate such acts of violence. But a more important part of the effort must be the continued and increasing influence of public opinion against the practice. It is not enough that officers of the law should prevent lynchings. The final victory of civilization over barbarism in this respect will come only when there are no longer any attempts at lynching.

Bristol, Tenn. Herald-Courier
Friday, January 6. 1933

A Better Lynching Record.

According to a report issued by Tuskegee Institute, which annually compiles lynching statistics, there were eight lynchings during 1932. Of these, six occurred in the South and two in other sections; and of the eight victims of mob violence, two were white men and the others were Negroes. One of the eight victims was accused of criminal assault, one of attempted criminal assault, and one of insulting women. Other offenses charged were murder, attempted murder, wounding an officer, dynamiting a store, and threatening a man with a knife.

One of the reported lynchings, supposed to have occurred in Virginia, probably was not a lynching. Several months ago the body of Shadrack Thompson, a Negro, was found hanging to a tree in Fauquier County and the presumption was that he had been hanged by a mob. The matter was thoroughly investigated, with the result that a Coroner's Jury and a Grand Jury reached the conclusion that it was a case of suicide. Thompson was wanted for assault or attempted assault on a white woman, officers were in pursuit of him, and the theory is that he despaired of escaping and took his own life.

If Thompson committed suicide, as he probably did, there were only seven lynchings in this country in 1932. That is the smallest number of mob murders in any year since Reconstruction days, but the number still is seven too many. As long as there is one lynching a year the campaign against mob lawlessness should and will continue.

Bowling Green, Ky. Times-Journal
Monday, January 2, 1933

Lynchings In 1932

Although there were five less lynchings in 1932 than were in 1931, Kentuckians should regret to learn that of the eight states that furnished the eight lynchings during the past year, Kentucky is one of that number.

According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute that there were eight persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the lands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be-lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 Negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were Negro. The offenses charged were, murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The States in whcih lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

Lynchings should have no place in a law-respecting naion. The law and its legal enforcement must be supreme.

BOWLING GREEN, KY.
TIMES JOURNAL

JAN 2 - 1933

Lynchings In 1932

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Lynchings should have no place in a law-respecting naion. The law and its legal enforcement must be supreme.

Albany-Decatur, Ala. Daily
Wednesday, January 4, 1933

LYNCHING RECORD SMALLER IN 1932

Only 8 Persons Go To Death, Not One In This State

According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

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Lynchings-1932
&
Reports on Sent Press.

Jan.-Dec.

3848

Moultrie, Ga. Observer
Saturday, December 31. 1932

LYNCHINGS IN 1932 FIVE LESS THAN IN 1931

The records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute show that there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number of 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

NEW YORK TIMES

JAN 2 1933

EVENTED 31 LYNCHINGS.

Law Officers In 1932 Helped Make Total Low, Tuskegee Reports.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1 (AP).—Eight lynchings were recorded in 1932, the lowest number in years, the department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute reports.

The report said four of those lynched were taken from jails and three were taken from officers outside of jails. Thirty-one instances were reported where officers prevented lynchings.

Fayetteville, N. C. Observer
Saturday, December 31. 1932

LYNCHINGS DECLINE

It is gratifying to learn from the report of the Tuskegee Institute that lynchings in the United States were at a low-ebb during 1932 with summary executions given only eight, of whom six were negroes and two were whites.

Another happy fact in this connection is that there were no lynchings in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama or Mississippi.

Lynchings result from ignorance. Intelligent people do not attend lynchings and do not get lynched.

Decline in the number of lynchings is a good index of the progress of education and an excellent symptom.

Besides being an ignoramus the lyncher is a coward and is easily turned aside from his nefarious purpose by a small display of force. During 1932 there were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings and 27 of these instances were in Southern States.

Wilmington, N. C. Morning Star
Sunday, January 1, 1933

LYNCHINGS DECREASE

A record of lynchings for the year 1932 as compiled by statisticians at Tuskegee Institute, show that but eight occurred during the year, this being five less than in 1931, and thirteen below the total for 1930. On the other hand, the Tuskegee chart shows thirty-one were saved from lynching by officers of the law, twenty-seven of these preventions taking place in the South. Of the eight victims six were Negroes and two were Whites, the scenes of violence being equally divided between Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia.

This decline in mob violence is a source of gratification to all believers in orderly enforcement of law.

Saturday, D[illegible] 1932

DECREASE IN LYNCHINGS.

Robert Moton, principal of Tuskegee Institute, is promptly forward with his figures on lynching for the year, in which the record of steady decline is sustained. The record for 1932 was eight. This is five less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; two less than the number 10 for 1929; three less than the number 11 for 1928 and eight less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; four were taken from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails.

The fact is disclosed that Southern States law officers were more vigilant in preventing lynchings than were officers in other States. There were 31 instances in which the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States.

Monday, J[illegible] 2, 1933

EIGHT LYNCHINGS IN 1932

Six Negroes and Two Whites Victim of Mob Law, Survey Shows.

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Jan. 1.—(AP)—Eight lynchings took place in 1932 the lowest number in years, the department of records and research of Tuskegee institute has reported.

Of the number, six were negroes and the charges included murder one; attempted murder, one; criminal attack, one; attempted attack one; wounding officer of the law and dynamiting store, one; insulting women, one; and threatening men with a knife, one.

Eight states reported one lynching each, the report said. They were: Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia.

The report said four of those lynched were taken from jails and three were taken from officers outside of jails. Thirty-one instances were reported where officers prevented lynchings.

Wilmington, N. C. Morning Star
Sunday, January 1, 1933

Eight Lynchings Reported Taking Place During 1932

TUSKEGEE, Ala., Dec. 31—(AP)—Eight lynchings took place in 1932, the lowest number in years, the department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute reported today.

Of the number, six were negroes, and the charges included murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; criminal attack, 1; attempted attack, 1; wounding an officer of the law, and dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; and threatening men with a knife, 1.

Eight states reported one lynching each, the report said. They were: Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia.

Birmingham, Ala., [illegible]
Friday, December 30, 1932

FEWER LYNCHINGS IN 1932 REPORTED

Tuskegee Survey Shows Eight; Seven Taken From Law

Fewer lynchings took place in the United States during the past year than during any other year since 1927, according to records compiled by the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute.

Comparative figures are: In 1932, eight; in 1931, 13; in 1930, 21; in 1929, 10; in 1928, 11, and in 1927, 16.

According to the records, seven of the eight victims during 1932 were in the hands of the law when taken by mobs, and four of the seven were taken from jails. The bodies of two of the victims were burned, the records showed.

"There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings," the report stated. "Four of

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Rocky Mount, N. C., Telegram
Monday, January 2, 1933

Decline In Lynchings

Statistics compiled by Robert R. Moton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, reveal that eight persons, two whites and six Negroes, were lynched during 1932. The states in which the lynchings occurred were Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia. The number of deaths due to mob violence this year is five less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; two less than the number ten for 1929; three less than the number eleven for 1928; and eight less than the number 16 for 1927, the statistics reveal.

During the year there were 31 instances in which officers of the law by prompt action prevented lynchings. Four of the attempts were made in northern and western states and 27 unsuccessful efforts to lynch prisoners were made in southern states, the report continues. In seven other instances armed forces were used to repel would-be lynchers. Thus the lives of 42 persons, seven white men and 35 Negroes—33 men and 2 women—were saved from death at the hands of infuriated groups of people.

Offenses from which lynchings outbreaks developed were murder, attempted murder, rape, attempted rape, the wounding of an officer of the law, the dynamiting of a store, insulting a woman, and threatening men with a knife.

While this report lacks much in reaching the hoped for proportions, it is an encouraging one. Immediate and effective action on the part of determined officers prevented the death of a large number of persons, some of whom doubtless were not guilty, and many of whom were not charged with capital crimes. The Institute's records fail to disclose whether the number of actual lynchings and attempts to lynch—a total of 46—compare favorably with the record for 1931, but it is plainly evident that the determination of officers of the law, particularly in the South, to prevent lynchings is taking a more concrete form.

Cooperation between the races has been and will continue to be productive of better feelings in this part of the nation where there is a heavy Negro population. Better informed colored people are as eager and as willing to assist in the enforcement of laws and to weed out crime as are white people. And while the process of moving away from the execution of lynch law must necessarily be slow, there is no doubt but that definite progress is being made.

Continued activity to prevent lynchings which must take the form of vigorous opposition on the part of officers of the law and a public expression against it are factors that will promote more harmonious relations between the races and prevent recurrence of deadly mob violence.

Bowling Green, Ky. Courier
Wednesday, January 4, 1933

Lynchings In 1932

Although there were five less lynchings in 1932 than were in 1931, Kentuckians should regret to learn that of the eight states that furnished the eight lynchings during the past year, Kentucky is one of that number.

According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute that there were eight persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the lands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be-lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 Negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were Negro. The offenses charged were, murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The States in whcih lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

Lynchings should have no place in a law-respecting naion. The law and its legal enforcement must be supreme.

WILMINGTON, DEL.
EVERY EVENING
DEC 31 1932

LYNCHINGS FEWER THAN IN 1931.

A decline of five in the number of lynchings for 1932 is regarded with some satisfaction by foes of that form of lawless violence, but it can hardly be said that the decrease indicates any permanent drawing away from mob frenzy.

It is indeed regrettable that lynching is still resorted to by irresponsible mobs in expiation of some violent forms of crime, but it seemingly cannot be restrained except through the slow processes of education. The number of victims of mob law has, however, declined in the last three decades when they occasionally totaled as many as 30 in 12 months.

Possibly there are fewer of the crimes which mob sought to punish by lynchings, but we are inclined to the belief that the public sentiment against such brutal punishment is responsible for the small drop in victims from 13 in 1931, to 8 in 1932. We may indulge the hope that the abhorrence of lynching may be responsible for the decline, but, on the other hand, the spirit of lawlessness may flare upon again in the future—even next year—and thus destroy all conclusions that mob law is yielding to the effort to drive it from our country.

All Americans regret that lynching is still resorted to in their country, the foremost nation in the world, but the only one in which lawless mobs can supplant the procedures of courts and juries and take the life of a suspected offender (whether he be guilty or innocent) and go unpunished.

It would be a blessing indeed if we could wipe out mob rule entirely and thus remove the stigma that it casts upon our country. It, too, would be a propitious time to make such a "good resolution" and carry it intact through the New Year and ever after.

LOUISVILLE, KY.
COURIER JOURNAL
JAN 1 1933

LYNCHINGS IN 1932.

To the Editor of The Courier-Journal.

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932. I find, according to the records compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were eight persons lynched in 1932. This is five less than the number, thirteen, for 1931; thirteen less than the number, twenty-one, for 1930; two less than the number, ten, for 1929; three less than the number, eleven, for 1928, and eight less than the number, sixteen, for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; four were taken from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of two of the victims were burned.

There were thirty-one instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern and Western States and twenty-seven in Southern States. In twenty-four of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of forty-two persons, seven white men and thirty-five Negroes, thirty-three men and two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the eight persons lynched, two were white and six were Negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, one; attempted murder, one; rape, one; attempted rape, one; wounding officer of the law, one; dynamiting store, one; insulting women, one; threatening men with a knife, one.

The States in which lynching occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, one; Kansas, one; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Ohio, one; Texas, one, and Virginia, one.

R. R. MOTON, Principal.
Tuskegee Institute, Ala.

Brookhaven, Miss. Times
Thursday, January 5, 1933

As reported from Tuskegee Institute, the number of lynchings in the United States in 1932 was eleven as compared with fourteen the previous year. Mississippi was not among the states in which lynchings took place last year. Some twenty-five attempts to wreak summary vengence by mobs were defeated by officers of the law in 1932

Florence, S. C., News
Sunday, January 1, 1933

THAT — Eight lynchings took place in 1932,— the lowest number in years, the department of records and research of Tuskegee Institute reported. Eight states reported one lynching each, the report said. They were: Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia.

Kinston, N. C., Free Press
Tuesday, January 3, 1933

While the lynching record in 1932 shows up well in comparison with preceding years, yet it must be admitted that the murder of eight persons by mobs in a year is just that number too many for a civilized and law-abiding people. Why not resolve in this good year of 1933, just beginning, to wipe out this blot entirely from society's escutcheon.

ALBANY N. Y. KNICKER PRESS
FEBRUARY 6, 1933

ONLY 8 LYNCHINGS IN 1932, FEWER THAN EVER RECORDED

New York, Feb. 5 — (AP)—Fewer lynchings occurred in the United States in 1932 than in any other year since records have been kept, the Department of Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches reported today.

The number was eight, the department said, as compared with 13 in 1931, 21 in 1930 and 10 in 1929. Two of the victims were whites and six were Negroes.

Dr. George E. Haynes, executive secretary of the department, said "a growing tendency toward prevent'on of the evil is indicated in two significant developments.

"One is the fact that, according to records given by the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute, there were 31 instances in 1932 in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, four of them in Northern and 27 in Southern states. In 1931 there were 57 such preventions."

Lynchings - 1932
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

3849

TUSKEGEE CHRONICLES ONLY 8 LYNCHINGS

Boston

According to the records compiled at Tuskegee Institute there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside the jails; the bodies of two of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern and Western states and 27 in Southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 Negroes, 33 men and two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of the mob.

Of the 8 persons lynched 2 were white and 6 were Negroes.

TUSKEGEE SAYS ONLY 8 LYNCHED—LIST TOO LACKING TO DESERVE ATTENTION

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, Dec. 31, 1932—I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute that there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned, 2 were white.

Lynching Reports Vary

1-7-33

CHICAGO, (ANP) By the present time, lynching statistics are coming in from all directions. Whereas, in the old days when Dr. Work started, the Tuskegee figures were indubitably accepted, we already have for 1932 estimates running from eight to 32. How many lynchings were there in 1932? Well, it depends on who is telling you. Totals have been released from four sources; Tuskegee, the League of Struggle for Negro Rights (Communist), the ational Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and the Associated Negro Press.

TUSKEGEE INST. BUREAU REPORTS EIGHT LYNCHINGS

Baltimore, Md.

Six Colored and Two White, Says Dr. Moton's Statement.

POLICE HALT 31 LYNCHING MOBS

One Lynching Caused by Insult.

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—There were eight lynchings chalked up in this country in 1932, according to the Department of Records and Research of Tuskegee Institute.

This number was five less than those reported last year when 13 human beings were done to death by mobs.

Seven Under Arrest

According to the report, seven of those lynched were in the hands of the law when the mob violence took place. Four were taken from jails and three from officials. Two were burned.

The figures show the smallest number of lynchings since 1927. They are 13 less than in the number, 21, for 1930; two less than the number, 10, for 1929; three less than the number, 11, for 1928, and ten less than the number, 18, for 1927.

31 Lynchings Halted

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 Negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1, and Virginia, 1.

Just How Many Were Lynched?

Black Dispatch
1-5-33
Oklahoma City, Okla.

CHICAGO, Ill., Jany 5.—(ANP)—No one who knows the genial and painstaking keeper of records and seals at Tuskegee Institute would call him a publicity seeker, despite the fact that his achievements in behalf of his race and the institution he represents have placed him in the forefront of those who make a study of the present and the past of the Negro. Dr. Monroe Work is just a quiet, little man, doing his day's work methodically and well.

Several years ago, Dr. Work started what the big city folks called a racket. He, of course, had no idea that his little matter of fact-finding and recording was going to develop into a racket, but nevertheless, without nursing from him, it did, and today we have a racket in lynching statistics.

Year after year, Dr. Work, thru Dr. Moton, released the semi-annual and annual statistics on lynching and the newspapers throughout the country picked them up. Each release was a sure hit, along with the name of the releaser.

By the present time, lynching statistics are coming in from all directions. Whereas, in the old days when Dr. Work started, the Tuskegee figures were indubitably accepted, we already have for 1932 estimates running from eight to thirty-two.

How many lynchings were there in 1932? Well, it depends on who is telling you. Totals have been released from four sources: Tuskegee, the League of Struggle for Negro Rights (Communist, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and the Associated Negro Press.

Only two of the three totals agree, those of the N. A. A. C. P. Each of these organizations listed eleven lynchings for the year, but even they differed as to description. Thus the N. A. A. C. P. lists a lynching in Georgia, one in South Carolina and one in Florida which the Associated Negro Press either ignores or overlooks and the Associated Negro Press lists one in North Carolina and an additional one in Arkansas and one in Alabama which the N. A. A. C. P. does not record.

The Tuskegee total is the most conservative, being only eight. Of those recorded by the N. A. A. C. P., the Tuskegee list omits one in Florida, one in South Carolina and one in Georgia. To that extent the list agrees with the Associated Negro Press total. However, the Tuskegee list also ignores the North Carolina, the Alabama and the additional Arkansas case which the Associated Negro Press includes.

At the other extreme from Tuskegee is the League of Struggle for Negro Rights, the Communist agency. It records 32 lynchings. The three organizations listed

are careful to distinguish

lynchings and plain mur-

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TWO WHITES SIX NEGROES MAKE UP LYNCH TOLL FOR 1932

Birmingham, Ala.

According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute there were 8 persons lynch in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928, and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings; 4 of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 Negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched 2 were white and 6 were Negro. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a kife, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1, and Virginia, 1.

LYNCHINGS FOR YEAR 1932 AS COMPILED BY THE DEPT. OF RECORDS AND RESEARCH OF TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE

Palmetto Leader
1-7-33
Columbia
S.C.

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932. I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute that there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1 and Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON, Principal.

ONE-FOURTH OF LYNCH VICTIMS WERE WHITE

Indianapolis Recorder

1932 Total of Eight Is Five Under 1931 and Two Under 1930

1-7-33

Eight persons were lynched in the United States during the year 1932, says a special Tuskegee Institute dispatch to The Indianapolis Recorder.

Indianapolis Indiana

"This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931" says the report which contained the information that "the number is 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; two less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned, according to the Tuskegee report.

Eight States Named

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 Negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs, the report said.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were Negro. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1; according to the report.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

Eleven Lynchings For

NEW YORK, Jan. 5.—A record of 11 reported lynchings for the year 1932 represents a decline of three from the 14 reported in 1931, according to statistics made public recently by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 69 Fifth avenue.

Only one state, Florida, had two lynchings. The other states, which each had one lynching are: Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia.

Two of the victims of lynching mobs were white, the remainder Negroes. Among the offenses charged to the mob victims were: quarrel with employer who formed the lynching mob; murder; stealing ten dollar bill and wounding deputy sheriff; quarrel over pay resulting in shooting; dynamiting store; insulting white women.

In all cases the mob either hanged or shot its victim, the body being subsequently burned in the case of Henry Woods, lynched at Jasper, Fla.

In making public the figures, Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said:

"Reported lynchings are three less this year than in 1931. But satisfaction at this slight progress must be tempered by the knowledge that quasi-legal lynchings, shootings by members of posses, hasty court trials with results virtually dictated by mobs, as in Scottsboro, Alabama, are little if any better than open and unashamed mob murder. The lynching spirit remains the focal problem of law enforcement in America."

The lynchings in their chronological order as listed by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, are:

1. Aged Negro. February. Body found in pond, Brooksville, Fla.
2. David Tillus, April 1. Crockett, Texas.
3. Richard Read (white, April 13, St. Francis, Kansas.
4. Walter Merrick (white) May 31, Princeton, Kentucky.
5. Luke Marion, June 7, Ironton, Ohio.
6. Henry Woods, June 7, Jasper, Florida.
7. Henry Russell, August 29, Newton, Georgia.
8. Frank Tucker, Sept. 16, Crossett, Arkansas.
9. Shadrock Thompson, Sept. 16, Warenton, Virginia.
10. Henry Campbell, November, Mullins, South Carolina.
11. William House, Nov. 19, Wisner, Louisiana.

Reports As To Lynchings Conflict

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(CNS)—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announces that its records disclose reports of eleven lynchings in 1932, compared with fourteen in 1931. Two of those named were white, one in Kentucky. The remainder were Negroes.

1-5-33

The Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, reports only eight persons lynched in 1932, five less than the number—13, for 1931."

The states in which the eight lynchings occurred are, Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky. 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas. 1; Virginia, 1.

Greensboro, N. C. News
Sunday, January 1, 1933

A HARD YEAR ON LYNCHERS.

A refreshing bit of information, at a time when all contributions that cheer are heartily welcomed, comes in the form of an annual release from the department of records and research of Tuskegee institute, which shows that lynchings in the United States reached a lower level in 1932 than in any year since these statistics have been gathered, running back over a period of 40 years, by that agency.

Only eight lynchings, it is recorded, occurred during the past twelve months, this total being 5 less than for 1931, 13 less than for 1930, two less than for 1929, three less than for 1928 and eight less than for 1928. The downward trend is significant of itself, but this significance assumes greater proportions in its dispelling of the theory, advanced in 1930 when the graph shot sharply upward, that the collapse of the previous year had an influence for mob rule and that economic adversity and King Lynch had a direct working agreement of some sort. With adversity still upon us, it is distinctly pleasing to have such a theory jolted.

Explanation of the current statistics, aside from their own general expression, tends to show that the decline may be attributed to a continuing program of education, a growing aversion of the citizenry to mob rule and the subsequent reaction of officialdom to these higher demands. That conclusion is based upon the revelation that officers of the law are credited with having prevented lynchings in 31 instances during the year. In 24 of these instances, prisoners were removed, guards augmented or other precautions taken, while in seven others armed force was used to repel those who sought to take the law into their own hands. Forty-two persons were saved from what, it is believed, would have been death at the hands of lynchers. On the other hand, the realization that officers are, in some instances, still derelict of their duty and should feel continued pressure from civilizing forces, comes with the knowledge that seven of the year's victims were taken out of the hands of the law, four from jails and three from officers outside of jails. The far greater number of frustrations of mobbery shows, however, what can be done when there are a will and a manifestation of commonsense.

The picture, as it stands, is nevertheless one of the cheering offerings of the year which died last midnight.

TUSKEGEE RECORDS SHOW EIGHT 1932 LYNCHINGS

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, —(Special)— According to the records compiled in the department of records and research of Tuskegee institute, eight persons were lynched during the year, 1932.

This figure is five less than the 13 lynched in 1931; thirteen less than the number, 21, in 1930; two less than the number, 10 in 1929; three less than the 11 for 1928; and eight less than the 16 in 1927.

Seven of the persons lynched in 1932 during the past year were in the hands of the law, four being taken from jails and three, from officers of the law outside of jails. The bodies of two of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern and western states and 27 in southern states. In 24 of the instances, the prisoners were removed or the guards augumented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, seven white men and 35 Negroes, 33 men and two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the eight persons lynched, two were white and six were Negro. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

Aiken, S. C. Journal & Review
Wednesday, January 4, 1933

Lynchings Decrease During Past Year

According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 Negroes, 33 men and 2 wowomen, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were Negro. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

Lynchings- 1932
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. -Dec.

3850

LOWELL, MASS.
EVE. LEADER

JAN 4 - 1933

New Low Record of Lynchings.

Principal R. R. Moton of Tuskegee Institute has made his annual report of lynchings in the United States, from which it appears that the year 1932 has made a new low record. The total number of eight was made up of two whites and six Negroes, a proportion of white people that has only once been exceeded since 1897. In three recent years no white person has been lynched. For the first time since statistics have been gathered all the lynching states have been on an absolute equality, the outrages having been apportioned among eight states, four of which, Kansas, Kentucky, Ohio and Virginia, are usually without reproach in this respect. That leaves only four for the old lynching belt, which is an extremely good showing.

Only three of these lawless executions were for crimes against women, one having been for "insulting a woman." Mississippi, which has been one of the worst offenders in the recent past and the worst, if the whole record of nearly 40 years is taken into account, has a clean slate this year. This has probably been due in part to the determined effort by lawyers' and other citizens' organizations to create a better public sentiment. Yet the improvement there and elsewhere has been owing largely to the greater vigilance of officers of the law. In 31 cases, involving 42 persons, mobs appear to have been ready to act, and in seven cases armed force was used against such mobs.

There can be little doubt that the orderly processes of law are gaining, and this will probably continue to be true, even if this year should witness a setback. There have been in the past such reversals of the trend. In 1930, for instance, there was a jump to 21 from the previous year's record of 10. Nevertheless progress is undeniable in view of a decrease in one decade from 57 to eight.

HERALD
Harrodsburg Ky.

JAN 6 1933

CONCERNING LYNCHINGS

Tuskegee, Alabama,
December 31, 1932

Editor Herald:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932. I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute that there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from

outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. 4 of these were in Northern and Western States and 27 in Southern States. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances,

would be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 Negroes 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were Negro. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting woman, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana

1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1

Yours very truly,
R. R. MORTON Principal

Abbeville [illegible]
Thursday, January 5, 1933

Lynchings In U. S. Decrease In 1932

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932. I find according to the records complied in the Department of Record and Research of the Tuskegee Institute that there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. 7 of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

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The states in which lynchings occured and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON. Principal.

Jackson, Ga., Progress-Argus
Friday, January 6, 1933

8 PERSONS LYNCHED IN 1932, RECORDS SHOW

THIS IS DECREASE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR. FIGURES COMPILED BY TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE RESEARCH BUREAU

According to records compiled by Tuskegee Institute, there were 8 persons lynched during 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929.

Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside jails. The bodies of two of the victims were burned.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were Negro. The offences charged were: Murder 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1 insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida 1; Kansas, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1 Texas, 1; Virginia, 1; Kentucky, 1.

Asheville, N. C., Advocate
Friday, January 6, 1933

LYNCHINGS IN 1932

Editor of The Advocate:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932. I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute that there were eight persons lynched in 1932. This is five less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; two less than the number 10 for 1929; three less than the number 11 for 1928 and eight less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law, four were taken from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of two of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern and Western states and 27 in Southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, seven white men and 35 negroes, 33 men and two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the eight persons lynched two were white and six were negro. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening with a knife, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

R. R. MATON,
Principal, Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute

YOUNGSTOWN O.
VINDICATOR

JAN 5 1933

Lynchings in 1932

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Jan. 3

Editor of The Vindicator, Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932. I find, according to the records compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskogee Institute, that there were eight persons lynched in 1932. This is five less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; two less than the number 10 for 1929; three less than the number 11 for 1928, and eight less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; four were taken from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of two of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern and western states and 27 in southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented, or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, seven white men and 35 Negroes, 33 men and two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the eight persons lynched, two were white and six were Negro. The offenses charged were: murder one, attempted murder one, rape one, attempted rape one, wounding officer of the law one, dynamiting store one, insulting women one, threatening men with a knife one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas one, Florida one, Kansas one, Kentucky one, Louisiana one, Ohio one, Texas one and Virginia one.

R. R. MOTON, Principal.

THIS CLIPPING FROM THE
Morn. Tennessean
NASHVILLE
TENNESSEE

JAN 2 1933

Shelving Mob Law.

Civilization's fight against lynch law in the United States, which has made gains almost annually during the past half century, was reflected in the information about lynchings for 1932 made public the other day by Dr. R. R. Moton, president of the Tuskegee Normay and Industrial institute, which showed that during the year just ended a low record of eight lynchings had been established.

This is five less than the number thirteen for 1931, thirteen less than the number twenty-one for 1930, two less than the number of ten for 1929 three less than the number eleven for 1928 and eight less than the number sixteen for 1927.

Going back still further, the real progress in the reduction of the number of lynchings is better illustrated. In 1922, a decade ago, there were fifty seven lynchings, in 1912 there were sixty-four, in 1902 there were eighty-six and in 1892 there were 255.

The reduction is, of course, the result of a growing sentiment against mob action. It manifests itself not only in fewer instances in which mobs are formed but also in the determination of officers to protect the prisoners in their care against mobs. During the past year there were thirty-one instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings, a total of forty-two persons being saved in this manner. Those courageous officers who thus protected their captives against mob violence are responsible for the fact that the lynching record was brought to a new low record last year. For had the mobs been successful in obtaining and putting to death every person they sought duing the past year the total lynched would have been fifty greater than any figure since 1902.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.
MORNING UNION

JAN 3 1933

Fewer Lynchings in 1932

It is gratifying to note that, according to the records compiled at the Tuskegee Institute, there were fewer lynchings in 1932 than in any of the immediate preceding years. The year's total of persons put to death by mob law was eight, of whom six were Negro and two were white. This compares favorably with thirteen such victims in 1931, twenty-one in 1930, a notoriously bad year; ten in 1929, eleven in 1928 and sixteen in 1927.

With two exceptions the lynchings occurred in the South, one each in Florida, Arkansas, Texas, Kentucky, Louisiana and Virginia. Northern States disgraced by such mob violence were Kansas and Ohio. In seven cases the victims were taken from jails or from the custody of arresting officers.

An encouraging feature of the report from Tuskegee is the fact that thirty-one attempted lynchings were frustrated by officers of the law, twenty-seven of these in Southern States, where a more wholesome attitude on the part of the authorities toward lynching seems to be developing, and four in Northern States. With public sentiment even in the South turning more strong against lynching it is not too much to hope that the barbaric practise may soon wear itself out and become only a memory.

TOLEDO, O.
TIMES

JAN 9 1933

Fewer Lynchings

It may be that kindness and restraint tolerance and a better respect for the laws, are born out of hard times. We have the report of the Tuskegee institute on lynchings showing that eight such crimes by lawless parties were staged in 1932. That figure shows a marked reduction from the 13 lynchings staged in 1931. For several years the number of lynchings has declined.

We trust that this is due to more enlightenment, more regard for human rights. Lynching is never justified. The greatest tragedy often takes place when the mob in its heedless frenzy lynches the wrong man.

Let us hope that good times, when they come again, will in no way affect gradual decline in one of the most vicious impulses of the human race.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.
EVE. TRIBUNE

JAN 9 1933

FEWER LYNCHINGS

Eight persons were lynched during 1932, of whom two were white. Two of the lynchings occurred in the north, one each in Ohio and Kansas. The number thus slain by mobs is less than the number for any other recent year, the figures being: 1931, 13; 1930, 21 1929, 10; 1928, 11; 1927, 16. The other side of the picture is decidedly encouraging. There were no fewer than 31 occasions on which officers of the law prevented lynchings and 27 of these were in southern states. In seven instances force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A list of the causes for the illegal executions shows afresh how little there is in the argument that they are the result of anger over the mistreatment of white women. The offenses charged against the men lynched in 1932 were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; insulting women, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1. These figures are issued by the Tuskegee department of records and research without comment. When the department began this compilation there was little to record regarding the endeavors of officials to prevent lynchings. The space which it is now necessary to give to these activities is highly gratifying to every citizen worthy of the name. It points to the approach of the time when we shall be rid of a worse barbarism than slavery itself.—New York Post.

NEW ORLEANS, LA.
STATES

JAN 5 1933

Lynching Record

TUSKEGEE figures on the lynchings during 1932 in the United States are unusually good. The number was smaller than in any year for a long time, with much efficiency shown by law officers in the suppression of mob violence.

Only eight persons were unlawfully executed by mobs during the twelve months. In thirty-one instances police or county guardians of the peace thwarted mob murder attempts, twenty-seven of these instances occurring in the South. The campaign of Southern newspapers and leading Southern citizens of all classes to relieve the South of the stigma of mob government is apparently having its effect. Incidentally, the campaign is being helped by the constant threat of a Federal statute that would give the Washington government jurisdiction in cases of lynching.

Of the eight persons whose lives were illegally taken two were white. That refutes the charge that Southern lynchings only happen in the case of negro violators of the law.

It is to be hoped that the low record of eight set by 1932 will mark the maximum and that there will be a steady decline of mob outbreaks until the time comes when resort to violence in the administration of "justice" in the South will become a thing of the past.

That day can be hastened with the co-operation of leaders of the negro race. They should devote themselves zealously to the task of teaching its members always to live within the law

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CONCORD, N. C.
TRIBUNE

JAN 3 - 1933

THE 1932 LYNCHING RECORD.

According to records compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute there were eight persons lynched in 1932. This is five less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; two less than the number 10 for 1929; three less than the number 11 for 1928 and eight less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; four were taken from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of two of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern and western states and 27 in southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repeal the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, seven white men and 25 negroes, 33 men and two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the eight persons lynched, two were white and six were negro. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

COLUMBUS, O.
DISPATCH

JAN 1 1933

The Mail Bag

Lynching Statistics Gathered by Moton at Tuskegee

To the Editor.

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932. I find according to the records compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskegee institute, that there were eight persons lynched in 1932. This is five less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; two less than the number 10 for 1929; three less than the number 11 for 1928, and eight less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; four were taken from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of two of the victims were burned.

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Of the eight persons lynched, two were white and six were Negroes. The offenses charged were: murder, one; attempted murder, one; rape, one; attempted rape, one; wounding officer of the law, one; dynamiting store, one; insulting women, one; threatening men with a knife, one.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, one; Florida, one; Kansas, one; Kentucky, one; Louisiana, one; Ohio, one; Texas, one, and Virginia, one.

R. R. Moton,
Principal.
Tuskegee Inst., Alabama.

Lynchings-1932
Reports on, Sent Press.

Jan. - Dec.

3851

Tuskegee Tabulates Lynching Statistics

Courier 1-7-33

Pittsburgh

TUSKEGEE INST., Ala., Jan. 5.—According to the records of the files of Tuskegee Institute's Department of Records and Research, 8 persons were lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number, 13, for 1931; 13 less than the number, 21, for 1930; 2 less than the number, 10, for 1929; 3 less than the number, 11, for 1928, and 8 less than the number, 16, for 1927. Seven of the persens lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails, and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

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The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1, and Virginia, 1.

LYNCHINGS FOR 1932

Office of the Principal
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama.

Afro-American
Presbyterian

December 31, 1932.

Dear Sir:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932. I find according to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute ~~there~~ were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law, 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

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The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

Yours very truly,
R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

Tampa, Fla. Times
Monday, January 2, 1933

LYNCHINGS IN 1932.

As announced by R. R. Morton, principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial institute, commonly known as the Booker T. Washington school, records compiled in the institute's department of records and research show that eight persons were lynched in the United States during last year. Of these two were whites and six were negroes. The offenses charged were one each for murder, attempted murder, rape, attempted rape, wounding officer of the law, dynamiting store, insulting women, threatening men with a knife.

By states these lynchings occurred as follows: In Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia, one each.

The 1932 lynchings were five less than the thirteen in 1931; thirteen less than the twenty-one in 1930; two less than the ten in 1929; three less than the eleven in 1928 and eight less than the sixteen in 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law—four of them being taken from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails. The bodies of two of the victims were burned.

There were thirty-one instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern and western states and twenty-seven in southern states. In twenty-four instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the other seven instances armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of forty-one persons; seven white men and thirty-five negroes, thirty-three men and two women; were thus saved from deaths at the hands of mobs.

It is gratfiying to know that there were so few lynchings in 1932. It cannot be confidently stated, however, that this is due to any reformation of primal passions in that particular. It seems rather to be the result of activity upon the part of officials that was considerably beyond the usual. This is encouraging. If such action increases the number of lynchings will inevitably be kept low. It is perhaps too much to expect that we will ever be entirely without lynchings because of a realization that lynchings are wrong. But we seem to be making some progress even in that respect.

Newberry, S. C. Observer
Tuesday, January 3, 1933

Eight Lynchings In the Year 1932

Editor The Observer:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for ther 1932. I find according to the records compiled in the deportment of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute that there were eight persons lynched in 1932. This is five less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; two less than the number 10 for 1929; three less than the number 11 for 1928 and eight less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; four were taken from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of two of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern and western states and 27 in southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers A total of 42 persons, seven white men and 35 negroes, 33 men and two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the eight persons lynched, two were white and six were negroes The offenses charged were: murder 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1 Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1 Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1, and Virginia, 1.

R. R. Morton,
Principal.

Tuskegee Institute, Ala.,
December 31, 1932.

Eufaula, Ala.
Tribune
Dec. 31, 1932

EIGHT PERSONS LYNCHED IN '32

President Moton, Tuskegee, Compiles Statistics Showing 2 White, 6 Negro

Following is the annual report on lynchings in the United States, the records being kept by President R. R. Moton of Tuskegee Institute:

I send you the following information concerning lynchings for the year 1932. I find according to the records compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute, that there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern and western states and 27 in southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the 7 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 negroes, 33 men and 2 women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the 8 persons lynched, 2 were white and 6 were negro. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; atempted rape, 1; wounding office of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; nsulting women, 1; threatening nen with a knife, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

R. R. MOTON,
Principal.

Concord, N. C. Tribune
Tuesday, January 3, 1933

THE 1932 LYNCHING RECORD.

According to records compiled in the department of records and research of the Tuskegee Institute there were eight persons lynched in 1932. This is five less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; two less than the number 10 for 1929; three less than the number 11 for 1928 and eight less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; four were taken from jails and three from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of two of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern and western states and 27 in southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repeal the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, seven white men and 25 negroes, 33 men and two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the eight persons lynched, two were white and six were negro. The offenses charged were: murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The states in which lynchings occurred and the number in each state are as follows [illegible]kansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentuc Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virgin

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Columbus, Ga. Enquirer-Sun
Thursday, January 5, 1933

LYNCHINGS LAST YEAR

The number of lynchings in 1932, as compiled in the Department of Research of the Tuskegee Institute, indicates improvement in the protection of prisoners from mob violence. Eight persons were lynched during the year, which was five less than the number for 1931, 13 less than in 1930, two less than 1929, three less than 1928, and eight less than in 1927.

Seven of the persons were in the hands of the law; four were taken from jails, and three from officers of the law outside of jails.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in northern and western states and 27 in southern states. In 24 of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented, or other precautions taken. In seven other cases, armed force was used to repel the would-be lynchers. A total of 42 persons, 7 white men and 35 negroes, 33 men and two women were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs, the report shows.

Of the eight persons lynched two were white and six were negro.

No lynching occurred in Georgia or Alabama during the year, and the officers who upheld the law in preventing this illegal form of punishment are to be commended for performing their duty. The states in which lynchings occurred were Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

The record is one which would indicate that the people are coming more toward letting the law take its course in the case of crimes, and that officers of the law are more determined to protect those in their charge.

Shelbyville, Tenn. Times
Thursday, January 5, 1933

Eight Lynchings Reported Last Year

According to the records compiled in the Department of Records and Research of the Tuskegee Institute there were 8 persons lynched in 1932. This is 5 less than the number 13 for 1931; 13 less than the number 21 for 1930; 2 less than the number 10 for 1929; 3 less than the number 11 for 1928 and 8 less than the number 16 for 1927. Seven of the persons lynched were in the hands of the law; 4 were taken from jails and 3 from officers of the law outside of jails; the bodies of 2 of the victims were burned.

There were 31 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Four of these were in Northern and Western States and twenty-seven in Southern States. In twenty-four of the instances the prisoners were removed or the guards augmented or other precautions taken. In the seven other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. A total of forty-two persons, seven white men and thirty-five negroes, thirty-three men and two women, were thus saved from death at the hands of mobs.

Of the eight persons lynched, two were white and six were negroes. The offenses charged were: Murder, 1; attempted murder, 1; rape, 1; attempted rape, 1; wounding officer of the law, 1; dynamiting store, 1; insulting women, 1; threatening men with a knife, 1.

The States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Arkansas, 1; Florida, 1; Kansas, 1; Kentucky, 1; Louisiana, 1; Ohio, 1; Texas, 1; and Virginia, 1.

Lynchings - 1932
&
Reports on, Sent Press, - Editorial Comments on.

Jan. - Dec.

3842

ATHENS, GA.
BANNER HERALD

DEC 30 1932

LYNCHINGS ON THE DECREASE

Lynchings for 1932 showed a decrease of 22 per cent throughout the nation, only one occurring in Georgia. The total number for 1932 was 11, while in 1931 there were 14 in all states.

Lynchings are becoming isolated and frowned upon by law abiding people. Only in cases of rape or attempted rape do lynching occur in the south. While a number of lynchings for this crime have been averted, it is one crime that arouses the best senses of the people and causes them to forget their duty as law respecting citizens. However, the reduction in the number of lynchings is due more to the fact that the crime of rape has been on the decrease. So long as such brutal crimes are committed, so long will there be lynchings committed.

The action of the federal courts in granting new trials for the young negroes who outraged two helpless young white girls in Scottsboro, Alabama, three years ago, was, indeed, unfortunate. The negroes were proved to be guilty and on their own admission, they were guilty of the crimes for which they were tried, yet under a technicality of the law, new trials were granted on the grounds that their trials were held under circumstances of coercion on account of the militia being ordered out by the governor of Alabama, in an effort to preserve order and to protect the negro criminals. The result of the new trial will be watched with much interest not only on the part of the law abiding people of Alabama, but by those who are employing lawyers to defend the rapists.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has announced the following lynchings for the year 1932, which is alleged to be the official list for the year.

"Aged negro, February, body found in pond, Brooksville, Fla.; David Tillus, April 1, Crockett, Texas; Richard Read (white), April 13. St. Francis, Kan.; Walter Merrick (white.) May 31, Princeton, Ky.: Luke Marion, June 7, Ironton, Ohio.

"Henry Woods, June 7, Jasper, Fla.; Henry Russell, August 29, Newton, Ga.; Frank Tucker, September 16. Crossett. Ark.; Shadrock Thompson, September 16, Warrentown, Va.: Henry Campbell, November, Mullins. S. C.; William House, November 19, Wisner, Louisiana."

The abatement of the crime of rape by the negro race will eventually eliminate lynchings and mob violence, not only in the Southern states, but in all states of the nation.

UNIONTOWN, PA.
EVENING GENIUS

JAN 12 1933

Fewer Lynchings

Philadelphia Ledger.

The list of lynchings in the United States this year, numbering eleven, shows only a slight reduction compared with 1931, when fourteen were recorded. But there were twenty-one in 1930. To realize how great has been the improvement over the old bad record it is necessary to glance back to 1922, when there were fifty-seven, or to 1921, when there were sixty-four lynchings. There were 100 in 1908 and 255 in 1892.

Florida has had two lynchings this year. The others were in Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia. As in recent years, crimes against women figured to a minor extent. All but two of the victims were Negroes. Inter-racial committees have done much in Georgia, Arkansas and some other Southern States to encourage more reliance on the law to punish offenses. And in several instances public officials this year, by their determination, have prevented mobs from taking the law into their own hands.

MICHIGAN CITY, IND.
NEWS

JAN 3 - 1933

MOB CRIMES

Ther[illegible]een 11 lynchings in the United States thi[illegible] pa[illegible] year, three less than in 1931. The figure is only encouraging when compared with earlier years, in which lynchings numbered scores and even hundreds. The best year was 1929 with only 10. At that time the trend had been steadily downward for four years, but it jumped to 21 in 1930, suggesting that the progress made had not been fundamental or enduring.

The same mob spirit which makes lynchings possible and condones them after they have occurred is expressed in other forms, such as quasi-legal lynchings, shootings by members of posses, hasty court trials with results influenced by popular emotion. There is need of a stronger stand for law and order on the part of courts and public officials and of a stronger faith in justice as promoted through the courts. The public needs to recognize mob spirit as a force wholly evil and destructive of the very ends it pretends to seek.

WAPAKONETA, O.
NEWS

JAN 5 1933

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FARGO, N. D.
EVE. FORUM

JAN 13 1933

Fewer Lynchings

Lynchings in the United States in 1932 numbered eleven, two less than in 1931. Two of the victims were white, and two of the lynchings occurred in the North, one in Ohio and one in Kansas. There were twenty-one in 1930, and the number this year is considerably less than the six year average.

If one goes back a little farther he discovers there has been quite a change for the better. For example, while the 1930 record was the highest for the last six years, there were fifty-seven in 1922 and sixty-four in 1921. In 1908 there were one hundred lynchings, and, if one goes back to 1892 he finds there were 255. The States, other than Kansas and Ohio wherein lynchings occurred in 1932, were Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia.

The activities of inter-racial committees to encourage more reliance upon the law has helped to reduce lynchings in Georgia, Arkansas and some other of the Southern States. There were no fewer than thirty-one occasions during 1932 in which officers of the law prevented lynchings and twenty-seven of these were in the South.

OXNARD, CAL.
COURIER

JAN 6 1933

Mob Crimes

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HERALD

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Florida has had two lynchings this year. The others were in Arkansas, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana Ohio, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia. As in recent years, crimes against women figured to a minor extent. All but two of the victims were Negroes. Inter-racial committees have done much in Georgia, Arkansas and some other Southern States to encourage more reliance on the law to punish offenses. And in several instances public officials this year, by their determination, have prevented mobs from taking the law into their own ands

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READING, PA.
TIMES

JAN [illegible] - 1933

FEWER LYNCHINGS

Black is the record of the year 1932 except in one or two particulars. One of its few virtues was the relative absence of lynchings, only eight having been reported. Though eight too many, that is the smallest number in years.

Judge Lynch's victims included two whites and six Negroes. They were denied the American right of trial by jury for the following alleged or suspected crimes: Murder, attempted murder, criminal assault, attempted assault, wounding an officer of the law and dynamiting a store, insulting women and threatening men with a knife.

These eight acts of mob violence left indelible spots upon the escutcheons of many states—Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, Texas and Virginia. Nor is the power given them to purge themselves.

More significant than the low number of lynchings was the record of 31 attempted lynchings thwarted by police or other officers of the law. Although seven of the 1932 victims were surrendered to murderous mobs by public authorities there is less tendency for the police prosecuting attorneys and courts to condone and encourage lynch law.

Lynchings eventually will take their place in history beside the New England witchcraft outrages. The one was as inevitable as the other.

COLUMBIA, PA.
NEWS

JAN 10 1933

FEWER LYNCHINGS

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Mob rule is passing even in the race-troubled states. Lynchings eventually will take their place in history beside the New England witchcraft outrages. The one was as inevitable as the other

Lynchings-1932
6
Alabama
3852

Side Lights.

Slayer Caught By Posse In Marengo

Advertiser

DEMOPOLIS, ALA., Feb. 25.—(AP)—Frenz Simmons, negro, sought as the slayer of a family of three negroes, was captured 18 miles southwest of here early today by a posse headed by Sheriffs Moody Drinkard, of Marengo, and M. C. Tucker, of Dallas. 2-26-32

Simmons was surrounded in a cabin as he slept and was taken without resistance. Officers said the negro admitted slaying the three-year-old child of George and Gertrude Burns but denied killing the parents.

Montgomery Ala

All three were found shot to death in their blazing cabin by deputies sheriff who were searching for Simmons on charges of burglary, early Tuesday.

Track dogs from Kilby Prison and the Dallas County pack were used by the officers in their two-day hunt through Marengo County for Simmons.

NEW YORK
[redacted] WORLD-
Telegram
JUN 29 1932

SHERIFF'S KILLER LYNCHED.

By the United Press.

OPELIKA, Ala., June 29.—Charley Miller, Negro, was slain by a posse today an hour after he had killed Sheriff W. S. Jones, who was trying to arrest him on a charge of murdering his wife and shooting two other Negroes.

ALA. POSSE KILLS BLOODTHIRSTY MAN

Amsterdam News

OPELIKA, Ala., July 4 (ANP).—Charlie Miller got a thirst for blood last Tuesday and, before the shooting was over, three persons were dead, including Miller. In the midst of a quarrel involving family gossip, Miller whipped out a pistol and shot Taylor Matthews and his wife, wounding both of them seriously. He then went home and shot his wife fatally.

N.Y. City N.Y.

By this time the sheriff of the county had been notified and he set out in search of the gunman. As soon as the sheriff, W. S. Jones, reached Miller's house and opened the door, he was shot dead. Miller then fled, but the killing of the sheriff resulted in the formation of a mob which pursued, cornered and filled him with 150 shots.

7/6/32

Lee Sheriff Slain By Mad Negro

Advertiser

Kills Wife And Hurts Two Before Crazed Man Is Caught, Killed By Posse

6-30-32

OPELIKA, ALA., June 29.—(AP)—Apparently crazed by liquor, Charlie Miller a negro, today shot and killed Sheriff W. S. Jones, of Lee County, slashed his own wife's throat and wounded two other negroes before a posse overtook him and fired 150 shots into his body as he resisted arrest.

Montgomery Ala

Shortly after daybreak Miller went on a rampage, first shooting Taylor Matthews and his wife, negroes, at their home. Returning to his home he attacked his wife and killed her, slashing her throat with a razor.

Sheriff Jones, advised of the Matthews shooting, hurried to the negro's home to arrest him but was greeted at the front door by a load of buckshot from Miller's gun. He died almost instantly.

A posse of 25 men formed quickly and cornered Miller in a field about three miles from here, opening fire as the negro raised his shotgun. A pistol also was found on his body. Officers expressed the belief the negro had been drinking.

Sheriff Jones is survived by his widow and two children. He formerly was chief of police at Auburn and Opelika.

Sheriff Jones was born at Salem, Ala., and was 57 years old, at the time of his death. He was elected sheriff of Lee County in November, 1930, and went into office in January, 1931.

Funeral will be held Thursday afternoon. Burial in Rosemere Cemetery, Crossley and Waldron in charge.

Lynchings-1932

Side Lights.

California.

3853

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
NEWS

NOV 23 1932

NEGRO FEARED LYNCHED

Following the disappearance of Merlyn Stamps, 36, Negro workman on the Gordon Moore ranch in Carmel valley, Sheriff Carl Abbott today was investigating the possibility that he has been lynched by cowboys after he had boasted about plans for a liquor party with a 19-year-old white girl.

Lynchings - 1932

Side Lights.

Florida

3854

BRONX HOME NEWS

FEB 18 1932

Fear Colored Man Was Lynched

Finding the body of an aged colored man in a pond at sville, Fla., late yesterday led police to believe that he ie victim of lynchers. Three other mysterious deaths sting mob violence are also being investigated.

Lynchings-1932

Georgia

3855

Side Lights.

Was This A Lynching?

Journal and Guide

VALDOSTA, Ga. —(ANP)—Officers here are essaying to arrest the assailants of Joe McKinnon, who was called from his home last week and beaten to death.

2-6-32

According to the story reaching the police a group of men, alleged to have been white, called at the McKinnon home last Tuesday night and ordered him to come outside. As he stepped out of the door he was struck over the head with a blackjack and left unconsicous in the yard.

A physician's examination revealed a compound skull fracture, which resulted in the death of McKinnon Thursday morning.

TWO WHITE MEN HELD FOR BEATING NEGRO

Courier

August 1932

VALDOSTA, Ga., Aug. 17.—Alleging that he was thrown into an automobile, carried beyond the city limits, and held with a chain around his neck while beaten over the head with a monkey wrench, Vic Harrison, negro, is under treatment in a local hospital and W. M. Marchant and William Marchant, two white men, are under arrest for the assault.

Physicians state that some of the negro's wounds are serious. The warrant was sworn out by Harrison at the instigation of his employer, C. W. Singleton.

Posse Hunts Negro All Night With Bloodhounds

East Tennessee News

BOONE, Ga. — (CNS)—Ralph Horton, 26 years old, is dead and Deputy Sheriff J. C. Farthing, 24-year-old white man, is critically wounded, following an attempt on the part of the white man to arrest Horton last week. The shooting of Farthing took place at Horton's home, where Farthing and another white officer went to arrest the dead man and his brothers.

9-29-32

The trouble leading up to the arrest started, according to the white police officers, some time before, when Ralph Horton and his brother, Norwood Horton, had words with a road construction boss over the discharge of a colored laborer. The construction boss swore out a warrant against the two brothers and Farthing went to arrest them.

Knoxville, Tenn.

Reaching the house, the mother of the Horton brothers refused the officers admittance and when Farthing pushed her aside forcibly and burst into the room, one of the brothers shot him. Escaping the other officer the two young men took to the mountains, seeking to cross the Tennessee State line. They were headed off, however, by a posse of over a hundred men who had been scouring the mountains with bloodhounds during the whole night. In the course of the arrest Ralph Horton was killed by members of the posse and Norwood Horton was badly wounded. The injured man was later returned to the local jail here.

TWO NEGROES FIRE WITHOUT WARNING; POSSE HUNTS PAIR

Constitution

1-13-32

Atlanta, Ga.

John Fowler, 62-Year-Old Operator of Small Store on Rock Bridge Road, Instantly Killed by Two Ruthless Robbers.

STORE CUSTOMER WOUNDED IN ARM

Man Saves Life by Fleeing Scene; Searchers Believed To Be Closing In on Slayers.

Led by bloodhounds, DeKalb county police and sheriff's officers late Saturday night were following the trail of two negro bandits who shot and killed an elderly Avondale grocer without warning, and wounded another man who was in his little store at the time.

The slain grocer was John Fowler, about 62 years of age, who operated a small place of business on a lonely site on Rock Bridge road, a short distance beyond Avondale. The other man in the store, Tom Sockwell, who lives in the Rock Bridge road district, was wounded in the arm, and saved his life by fleeing when the negroes first opened fire.

According to police reports, Fowler and Sockwell were in the store shortly after 8 o'clock when two negroes entered with drawn pistols. One pointed his gun at Sockwell, but the other shouted to him:

"That's not the man we want. The other's got all the money," and then opened fire. Fowler was instantly killed, and Sockwell was struck in the arm. He fled to nearby houses, where the alarm was given and the police and sheriff's office notified.

Chief of Police Alex W. Lilly of the DeKalb force was called from his home, and he obtained a brace of bloodhounds and rounded up all members of his force, who were put on the trail.

Sheriff's deputies also took up the search and late Saturday night were believed to be closing in on the slayers.

Fowler, who was dead when officers arrived, was taken to the undertaking establishment of A. S. Turner & Sons in Decatur.

FIVE COUNTIES JOIN HUNT FOR SLAYERS

Constitution

12-13-31

Atlanta Ga.

BAINBRIDGE, Ga., Dec. 12—(AP) Sheriffs' posses of five counties were searching swamps and woods in the southwest corner of Georgia tonight in an effort to apprehend three negroes wanted in Baker county in connection with the slaying yesterday of Copeland Jarvis and Bill Long, white officers.

Officers said they had learned that the negroes had crossed the Flint river at Hutchinson's Ferry early today and had asked for breakfast at the home of a farmer.

The men are heading for Florida, officers believe. Police Chief John Emanuel, of Bainbridge, taking part in the hunt, telephoned late today for more men and dogs.

What was believed to be the trail of the three men led earlier in the day to the outskirts of Bainbridge, where a bloodstained automobile was found deserted.

A woman told officers that she saw three negroes abandon the car and walk down the road about 8 o'clock last night.

FIVE NEGROES HELD IN NEWTON JAIL

NEWTON, Ga., Dec. 12.—(AP)—Five negroes were held here today for questioning in connection with the slaying of an officer and a special deputy who went to raid a gambling game yesterday, while Sheriff R. J. Griffin led a posse of about 75 men in search of two others.

All of the negroes held denied they had any connection with the shooting, officers said.

Lynchings-1932

Side Lights.

Louisiana

3856

AMERICAN
ABERDEEN, S. D.

MAR 27 1932

A RECORD FOR CRUELTY

When a gang of "night riders", supposedly whites, abducted John Bullen, 70-year-old Negro of Shreveport, La., last week, carried him into a nearby woods, stripped him of clothing, painted his hair green, daubed his bare body with mottled colors, gave him a severe lashing and refused to give him food they set a record for cruelty—ever in the South where lynchings are common.

John Bullen died Thursday as a result—an aged Negro, the victim of a race war which has been going on in the South since Lincoln freed the slaves. Apparently the attack was unprovoked.

The coroner returned a verdict of "starvation aggravated by fright." And apparently no effort is being made to bring his slayers to justice.

Such incidents are blots on the pages of American history. They cast a reflection on our vaunte civilization. They cause intelligent, right-thinking people to doubt that man has advanced fa above his progenitors of jungle days—foster th belief that after all maybe civilization is but thin veneer to be sloughed off in a moment of intense feeling.

Without doubt the Negro is one of the majo problems of the South but it must be remembere that the South is responsible for their bein there. It must make the best of a bad situation.

Though the two races will never be amalgamated, some sort of truce must be worked out t harmonize the two groups. The Negro should no only be granted the right of all American citizens but the government should see that this right i not over-ridden by whites imbued with race prejudice.

EDITOR TELLS WHY WHITE MOB DROVE HIM INTO EXILE

Says He Was Forced To Leave Louisiana Town After He was Threatened

Tribune

SHREVEPORT, La. — Albert White, editor of the Shreveport Afro-American, who is in hiding in a distant city after being run out of this town, recently by white hoodlums and police because he organized a meeting which was to teach Negroes how to vote, wrote to friends here this week telling of his activities in the matter. His statement in part follows:

Washington D.C

"In every issue there are usually two sides—the right side and the wrong side—the true side and the false side.

8/6/32

"It is these two opposite extremes that define the issue raised at Shreveport, Louisiana, on Tuesday night, July 12, over a proposed mass meeting of colored citizens there at the Lakeside auditorium where a voters league for the group was scheduled to have been organized.

"The premise of my program at Shreveport was to ultimately bring about civil and political liberty for the members of my race. The execution of such a program would have stimultaed Negro citizens at Shreveport to pay their poll taxes according to law, register their party affiliations according to law, and vindicate their sovereignity as citizens according to law."

"Realizing the danger of present day unrest and the menace of the infamous political doctrine preached by the nefarious Communists, we sought to institute a program at Shreveport which would have infused the Negro into the governmental fabric through participation in the Democratic primany elections as has been done in other Southern cities without evil effects.

"The display of fire arms by public authorities at Shreveport on July 12, to bring about the suppression of our meeting, adds nothing to the Christianity and common sense of decency at Shreveport.

"It does not require any genius in statesmanship to subject, oppress and humiliate Negroes at the point of bullets and bayonets, but it does require profound leadership to deal with them in such a way as to draw from them their best contribution for American civilization.

"Although I was forced to leave Shreveport for safety after threats had been made against my life as result of my activity to bring about the development of Negroes there, I find consolation during my exile in the pages of human history which show that prophets who have proclaimed unpopular truths and advocated the wisdom of change from custom, have always been faced with stern opposition."

Lynchings-1932
Side Lights.

Maryland

3857

Age Reporter On Vacation In South Tries To Take Picture Of Lynching Mob In Salisbury, Md.; Is Assaulted

Age 9-17-32

By CHESTER THOMAS

New York N.Y.

SALISBURY, Md.—This town was the scene of a near-lynching on Labor Day as a result of a baseball game between the Salisbury and the Philadelphia Red Sox, both Negro teams. During the game, an argument started between the players and a white constable attacked one of the players.

A general fight broke out and the white constable was badly beaten and his club and gun were taken away. As soon as the fighting broke out the Philadelphia team left town.

An hour after the fight, a mob of whites heard a rumor that a Negro called "Big Bill" had beaten the constable and had afterwards fled to the woods. The mob surrounded part of the woods a started a fire. Events happer

er and shortly a Negro answering the description of "Big Bill" was arrested and taken to jail although he denied knowledge of the affair.

The next day a mob surrounded the jail but it lacked leadership for each one seemed fearful of taking such a forward step. Notices were posted for all Negro businesses to close their doors and all Negro strangers were warned to leave Salisbury immediately.

Your reporter tried to take a picture of the mob at the jail but was unsuccessful when his camera was knocked out of his hands by a white hoodlum.

The feeling was still tense throughout the week and no cars with colored occupants were allowed to drive through Salisbury.

Lynchings - 1932
&
Side Lights -
&

Mississippi.

3858

NEGRO PREACHER LEADS GANG OF WHITE LYNCHERS

Daily Worker
11-28-32
New York

Betrays Hiding Place of Negro Laborer

N. Y.

GREENVILE, Miss., Nov. 27.—Rev. George Valentine, a Negro preacher of this comunity, lead a mob of white boss lynchers which a few days ago brutally lynched Ed Dunlap, a Negro levee laborer, who had a fight with a white foreman who kicked him and fired him when he protested and then refused to pay him his wages.

Ed Dunlap was driven away, but later returned to renew his demands for the wages due him. The white foreman again struck him, and reached for his gun. Dunlap beat him to the draw and fired two shots into his abdomen.

Dunlap made his escape and after wandering in the swamps for hours he made his way to the home of Rev. Valentine. The hunted worker gave the preacher his last two dollars and asked him to get him some food. The preacher instead went to the sheriff and returned at the head of a lynch gang which brutally lynched Dunlap after he had put up a heroic fight in which he wounded several of the mob.

Negro workers are framed-up and lynched almost daily in the South for demanding their wages and resenting the brutality of the white bosses and their foremen. It is out of this brutal persecution of the Negro masses that the hideous Scottsboro frame-up against nine Negro children was woven. The Negro preacher in this case played the same role, only more openly, as is being played by Walter White and other Negro and white reformists as assistant hangmen of the Negro mases in the interest of white supremacy of the rober rule of the capitalists and landowners.

MERIDIAN, MISS.
STAR

OCT 2 9 1932

NEEDLESS

Posse kills three negroes, perhaps more, and fatally wounds two more—

A headline from the current Mississippi press.

The story comes from Senatobia, Miss.

A posse seeking Jesse Williams, alleged killer of Sheriff Walker Williams, deals death, actual or potential to some five colored residents.

As to the guilt or innocence of the alleged culprit, we have naught to say.

As to indiscriminate shooting down of other negroes, little room for question.

As a general rule, posses—sheriff-led or mob-inclined—are likely to prove indiscriminate—

Too often minions of the law shoot first and look a little later on.

Largely another species of mobocracy.

If the south wishes to preserve traditions as the home of gallantry and essential fairness to all parties and all races—

If we really wish to establish the "decent opinion" of the rest of human kind—

We shall stop this silly, tragic sort of thing.

Mississippi Posse Shoots Negro Dead

Macon Telegraph
Nov 11-32

GREENVILLE, Miss., Nov. 10 (AP) Ed Dunlap, Negro, assailant of R. A. Leist, United States government riverbank paving unit foreman, was killed Thursday near here by a posse of about 100 county and city officers and citizens that surrounded the plantation cabin from which Dunlap shot and wounded Deputy Sheriff Emmett Gibson.

Dunlap refused to give himself up, but after the cabin was set afire he emerged with a shotgun and fired twice on the posse before he was killed.

Deputy Gibson, when shot by the Negro, [illegible] attempting with other Negroes to capture the Negro, who had barricaded himself in the cabin.

Lynchings-1932

Mississippi

3859

Side Lights.

WHITE MOB BEAT NEGRO SHARPER

Informer

2-20-32

Houston, Texas

Jackson, Miss.—(CNS)—H. J. York who has recently been charged with fleecing hundreds of Negro farmers in this section of the state, was being sought here by the police last week, following his mysterious disappearance. York, a colored man, claimed that he was connected with the federal government and painted to his victims, it is alleged, a rosy picture of what he could do for them if they paid him a dollar, and then sent him 50 cents a month. He promised that their outstanding debts would be paid and that the government would finance their next season's crops and give them a lump sum of $25 to take care of contingencies.

The man was arrested last week and held by local police for "federal investigation." While in process of being carried to Canton, Mississippi, a mob of white men took the prisoner from the hands of the sheriff and beat him severely and then released him. York has not been seen since the beating. The reason for the attack made upon him by the mob of whites remained unexplained here this week. Whether the man has been lynched or whether he has fled both the mob and the officers of the law is not known.

Posse Seeking Negro For Shooting Farmer

Advertiser

3-2-32

GREENVILLE, MISS., March 1.—(AP)—Plantation woods were searched in this section today by volunteer posses and officers looking for Ed Benion, a negro tenant farmer alleged to have shot and dangerously wounded Joe Knox, 45-year-old manager of the Homer Deans plantations at Tribbette.

Montgomery, Ala.

Officers said the shooting followed an argument over wages between Knox and the negro. After Knox had been shot Benion fled into the woods.

SAY MAN WAS NOT HANGED

Courier

5-14-32

Pittsburgh, Pa.

JACKSON, Miss., May 12—(ANP)—Reports that a colored man had been hanged and burned near Florence are denied by Sheriff Bob Therrell of Rankin county. The sheriff said he made an investigation on complaint of several colored farmers. He said he found debris of a fire, a few miles south of Florence, that indicated the insulation had been burned from a quantity of electrical wire which had been stolen and the insulation burned away to salvage the copper.

A Hinds' county license plate "83-150" was found near the scene. The license was issued to Calvin Jones, residing at 947 Blair street, who reported several days

Protest Is Filed by Negro Society

Telegraph

NEW YORK, Oct. 18 (AP)—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People telegraphed Tuesday to Governor Conner, of Mississippi, asking that he use state troops to halt "the mass murder of Negroes in Tate county."

10-19-32.

The telegram said:

"Press dispatches from Mississippi indicate that in pursuit of a single alleged Negro criminal, posses in Tate county have already killed a number of innocent Negroes which conflicting reports place at anywhere from four to seven. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People protests against this mass murder of Negroes in Tate county and against the brutality of these shootings of women as well as men as justifying the charge that Mississippi is one of the most backward and barbarous states of the American union. We urge that you as governor promptly use state troops to stop this massacre for which you cannot escape responsibility while it continues, and we urge that stern measures be taken to bring the murderers of these innocent and helpless Negroes to the bar of justice."

Macon, Ga.

SEVERAL NEGROES KILLED BY POSSE

Macon Telegraph

Official Investigation of Shooting Will Be Made, District Prosecutor Says

11-18-32

SENATOBIA, Miss Oct. 17 (AP)—Widely conflicting reports Monday night(said that from three to seven Negroes had been killed Monday by enraged posses scouring the hills of Tate county for Jesse Williams, 45--year-old Negro, who killed Deputy Sheriff Walker Williams Sunday.

Macon, Ga.

At least two other Negroes and a deputy sheriff were wounded.

District Attorney Milton Thompson said that he knew of only three Negroes who had been killed. Perry Poe, newspaper man of Codwater, said that he had seen the bodies of four and heard reports that possemen had killed three more.

Poe said that one group f search-Negro off of the hunted man's horse which he had abandoned. Two more were reported to have been killed when they ran from possemen.

Investigation Ordered

The slaying of three Negroes and serious wounding of two others Sunday night by a posse searching for the slayer of a deputy sheriff resulted Monday in an order for an official investigation.

The victims of the possemen's bullets were Judge Crawford and two of his sons, fatall shot, and his wife ers were supposed to have shot a and another son who may die from their wounds.

The posse was organized after Walker Williams, son of Sheriff A. C. Williams, had been shot to death here, alleyedly with his own pistol Officers said the deputy was killed by Jesse Williams, 45, Negro whom he had arrested.

Possemen surrounded the home of Crawford about midnight, they reported, and two shots were fired from the house, one of them slightly wounding Deputy Max Lloyd.

Several shots then were fired into the house, members of the posse said killing and wounding th occupants.

Crawford's wife escaped, but the wounded son was brought to jail here.

The investigation was ordered by Milton Thompson, prosecutor for this district.

A Bad Case Made Worse

Telegraph

9-19-32

Macon, Ga.

In Senatobia, Miss., a town on the Illinois Central from Memphis south to Jackson, the state capital, a young deputy sheriff went out to arrest a middle-aged Negro. The Negro was no doubt inflamed with whisky or cocaine. He took the gun away from the young deputy and shot him to death with it. Then he fled.

It was a case for officers of the law to work on and upon which they should have exercised their utmost vigilance and diligence. It was murder in cold blood and the Negro would undoubtedly have hanged for it. Instead of leaving the case to the due process of law, a posse organized itself into a mob and went to look for the Negro. At the home of one of his relatives, they shot down several Negroes. A deputy sheriff says three Negroes were killed and others were shot. A reporter says he saw four bodies and that at least two others were wounded. At any rate, at least three were killed, some of them women.

Members of the mob give no reason for killing the other Negroes. They had none, it is safe to presume in the light of mob history. Their passions were inflamed; their savage instincts aroused. An eye for an eye and three Negroes for every white man came to the surface. It was not a case in which they could even plead the honor of a white woman. White supremacy was not involved. No principle was involved, only white insane anger.

We can not call ourselves civilized as long as such things occur.

POSSE MISSES NEGRO SLAYER, KILLS 3 OTHERS

Advertiser

Fugitive Sought After Mississippi Deputy Is Shot To Death With Own Gun

10-18-32

THREE KILLED AS OFFICERS ARE FIRED ON FROM HOUSE

Montgomery, Ala.

SENATOBIA, MISS., Oct. 17.—(AP)—A negro accused of slaying Deputy Sheriff Walker Williams continued to evade capture today, but three other negroes were killed by the enraged posse that sought him.

Williams was killed with his own pistol here Sunday afternoon after he arrested Jesse Williams, 45-year-old negro on a robbery charge. Milton Thompson, prosecutor for this district, said Williams shot the deputy and fled.

A posse was hastily organized by Sheriff A. C. Williams, father of the slain deputy, and a trail was followed to the home of Judge Crawford, a negro farmer.

"Reports to me indicate the posse was fired upon from within the Crawford home, one of the shots slightly wounding Deputy Max Lloyd," Thompson said.

Thompson said the posse returned the fire, killing Crawford, one of Crawford's sons, and a son-in-law. Crawford's wife and another son also were wounded, the latter probably fatally. Thompson said he did not know whether the second son had died since he was not located.

"My office will make an investigation of the entire matter," Thompson said, "and our evidence likely will be turned over to the Grand Jury next week."

After the shooting at the Crawford home, the posse turned its attention to the Tate County hills, near here, where they believed the negro, Williams, might be hiding. Several trails proved false, but bloodhounds from Clarksdale were being relied upon to locate the fugitive.

Gov. Conner, reached by newspapermen at Cleveland, Miss., said he would order troops to Tate County, if necessary, but local officials indicated that they were not ready to make a request for outside aid.

Mississippi Posse Loses Negro Killer

Advertiser

10-19-32

SENATOBIA, MISS., Oct. 18.—(AP)—A negro who killed Deputy Sheriff Walker Williams Sunday apparently had escaped today as posses returned and Dist. Atty. Milton Thompson announced that he would ask the Grand Jury to investigate the slaying of three negroes by possemen.

Montgomery, Ala.

Only one group pushed on in its search for Jesse Williams, 45, it was learned by Dr. R. D. Williams, of Marked Tree, Ark., brother of Sheriff A. C. Williams.

The other posses returned upon the request of the sheriff, who was quoted by Thompson as asking that his officers be allowed to make an orderly search for the negro.

"My son will be avenged by the lawful hanging of Jess Williams," Thompson said the sheriff told him, in addition promising the negro "every protection the law affords" if he is captured.

Steve Williams, 15-year-old son of the hunted man, was moved to another jail today, after officers had announced that he confessed firing at Deputy Sheriff Walker Williams Sunday.

The three negroes who were killed were shot by possemen, the latter reported when they opened fire from the home of Judge Crawford, relative of Jess Williams and one of those killed

NEGROES LOSE LIVES AS MISSISSIPPI POSSES HUNT SLAYER O SHERIFF; N. A. A. C. P. PROTESTS

World 10-22-32
Birmingham, Ala.

Senatobia, Miss., Oct. 20.—Four Negroes are known to be dead and several others injured at the hands of posses scouring the hills of Tate County in an effort to apprehend Jesse Williams, 45, who shot and killed Walter Williams, son of Sheriff Williams Sunday afternoon. Deputy Williams is said to have been killed by his own gun in the hands of Jesse Williams following the deputy's attempt to arrest Williams as a robbery suspect. Up to this time Jesse Williams has made good his escape. Following news of the killing Sheriff Williams, father of the slain deputy hastily organized a posse which went to the home of Judge Crawford, Negro farmer and shot and killed Crawford, two of Crawford's sons and a son-in-law and perhaps fatally wounded his wife and others said to have been in the Crawford home at the time.

Blood hounds from Clarksdale picked up several trails but all proved false.

Governor Fails to Call Troops

When reached by newspaper men from Cleveland, Miss., Monday, the governor said he would order troops to Tate County if necessary, but local officials were not ready to make request for help.

One group of searchers, it is said shot a Negro off a horse abandoned by the hunted man.

N. A. A. C. P. CALLS ON GOVERNOR TO HALT MASSACRE

New York.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People telegraphed Gov. Conner, of Mississippi, asking that he use state troops to halt "the mass murder of Negroes in Tate County."

The telegram said:

"Press dispatches from Mississippi indicate that in pursuit of a single alleged Negro criminal, posses in Tate County have already killed a number of innocent Negroes which conflicting reports place at anywhere from four to seven. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People protests against this mass murder of Negroes in Tate County and against the brutality of these shootings of women as well as men as justifying the charge that Mississippi is one of the most backward and barbarous states of the American union. We urge that you, as governor, promptly use state troops to stop this massacre, fro which you cannot escape responsibility while it continues, and we urge that stern measures be taken to bring the mudderers of these innocent and helpless Negroes to the bar of justice.

DIST. ATTORNEY PROMISES INVESTIGATION

District Attorney Milton Thompson announced Wednesday that he would ask the grand jury to investigate the slayings.

Only one group pushed on in its search for Jesse Williams. It was led by Dr. R. D. Williams, of Marked Tree, Ark., brother of Sheriff A. C. Williams.

The other posses returned upon the request of the sheriff, who was quoted by Thompson as asking that his officers be allowed to make an orderly search for the slayer.

"My son will be avenged by the lawful hanging of Jesse Wiliams, Thompson said the sheriff told him, in addition promising "every protection the law affords" if he is captured.

New York Evening Journal

OCT 17 1932

KILL 5 NEGROES AFTER SLAYING

SENATOBIA, Miss., Oct. 17 (By International News Service).—Mowed down by the gunfire of a posse seeking the Negro slayer of Deputy Sheriff Jeff Walker Williams, 22, son of Sheriff C. A. Williams, of Senatobia, a family of 5 Negroes was wiped out here today.

Led by the father of the slain deputy, posse of 75 armed citizens, went to the home of Judge Crawford, Negro farmer, where Jesse Williams, the Negro slayer, was reported hiding. Crawford, a relatiev of the Negro, who Sunday afternoon killed the youn gdeputy, opened fire.

The posse returned the fire, killing Crawford, his wife, two sons and a son-in law. Williams, the Negro slayer, was not found. Authorities fear lync~~hing if he~~ is captured.

Man Hunt in Mississippi

Southwestern Christian Advocate

ALL ~~law-abiding~~ citizens deeply regret the recent killing of ~~a deputy~~ sheriff at Senatobia, Miss., by a Negro which precipitated a man hunt by a posse of angry citizens and the killing of three and the wounding of several other Negroes entirely innocent of the crime. 11-3-32

Much of the disorder in law enforcement under such circumstances is due to unlawful motives underlying efforts to enforce the law. ~~It is practically~~ impossible for an angry sheriff father of a murdered son seeking more to avenge the death of his son than to punish the murderer by lawful processes, to do justly and to act soberly. When a community augments the work of its constituted officers of the law by armed and angry citizens, it invites such results as did happen and makes of none effect the orderly enforcement of law. The posse system of hunting criminals should be done away if orderly enforcement of the law is expected. As strained as race relations are under such circumstances, a posse has the same psychology as a mob. It is more objectionable than a mob because it has the appearance of being legally constituted.

Under present conditions, so far as Negroes are concerned, there is no need of fearing a miscarriage of justice in courts entirely composed of white people. In most cases of interracial murder, Negroes are not permitted to become jurors in the trial of their fellows. There is therefore no excuse whatever for the mob in such cases. Where the mob is formed it is a confession of crudeness and lack of self-control and of unfitness to control an orderly community

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Posse Lynches Slayer of Deputy Sheriff

Chicago Defender 5/28/32

FORREST CITY, Ark., May 27.—Willie Burns, 26 years old, was slain by a posse today after he had shot and killed Deputy Sheriff Jim Ray Carleton and seriously wounded Deputy Sheriff C. B. Walker.

The deputies had taken Burns into custody on a charge of slaying his wife. Resisting, the prisoner seized Carleton's gun, shot and killed him, and clubbed Walker into unconsciousness.

Lynchings-1932

Ohio.

3860

Side Lights.

WHITE AND NEGRO WORKERS STOP A LYNCHING

[illegible]

BRIDGEPORT, Ohia — (CNA) — Alex Dorsey, Negro miner, was on June 3 torn from the hands of white gangsters by Negro and white miners of the Ohio coal fields, and thus saved from almost certain lynching. 6-25-32

Dorsey is an organizer for the National Miners Union and a member of the executive board of this union. For some time past he has been active among the miners in the Ohio coal fields. On June 13, he was speaking to a group of 200 miners and their families from Blaine, O., who had gathered to hear him explain the program of the National Miners Union. Gary Indiana

Sudden two carloads of white thugs appeared on the scene, seized Dorsey, and declared that they were going to lynch him. The miners, Negro and white, tore Dorsey from the hands of the gangsters and warned them that if Dorsey were injured, retribution would follow.

FIND ANOTHER BODY AT OHIO LYNCH TOWN

IRONTON, O., Aug. 18.—(ANP)—The body of another colored man was found in the Ohio river a short distance from here, last Saturday. It was impossible at the time to identify the man. The coroner reported that he was between 34 and 40 years of age and about five feet four inches in height.

Courier
Pittsburgh Pa.

On June 10 the body of Luke Murray was found in the river near South Point. Six white men were tried for abducting Murray from jail and murdering him. They pleaded that he jumped in the river to escape them while they were rowing him to the Kentucky side to turn him loose.

8/20/32

Lynchings - 1932

New York.

3861

Side Lights.

Crazed Negro Is Killed By Posse On Mountai

Advertiser

LONG LAKE, N. Y., March 5.—(AP)—The "wild man of the Adirondacks" is dead in the rugged region he terrorized for several days but the officers who killed him in a gun battle have been unable to bring the body out of the ice-locked mountains.

3-6-32

State troopers, game wardens and trappers who tramped back here last night after an all-day pursuit over the snow, said the "wild man," a large negro, garbed in tattered furs, defied them to the last, refused to surrender and died in a last stand at an abandoned lumber mill.

Montgomery Ala.

North Carolina

3862

Lynchings-1932

Side Lights.

FEARING LYNCH MOB, BOY LEAPS IN RIVER, DROWNS

4-30-32

Chicago (Ill.)

NEW BERN, N. C., April 27.—CNS—Percy Berry, 20 years old, was found in a creek near here drowned to death. He had been missing since early last week when five white men impersonating officers beat him and sought to make him pay $20 for "fishing at night." Two other colored youths with Berry were also held up by the extortionists. Benjamin Fisher, one of them, paid the white men $20. Later it was reported that the men beat Berry over the head and face, and the youth in fright ran toward the creek in an effort to escape. Whether he fell in the creek accidentally and drowned of fright or whether the white men drowned him is not known.

A scar was found on his right forehead where he had been hit, and deep lacerations were found on his upper lip, the wounds said to have been given him by the impersonators, who were also alleged to have shot at him seven times without hitting him while he was on the run. A search is being made for the white men in the case.

Lynch Mob Storm Jail Seeking Slaying Suspects

Washington, D.C.

GASTONIA, N.C.—A mob of whites gathered before the Gaston county jail here early Saturday and demanded two colored men who are alleged to have killed Harold Carter, white filling station operator. The mob left when told the men were not in the jail. 5-13-32

The men, Alex Grier and Clyde Smith, were removed to Charlotte. The jailor said there were at least 75 men in the mob, most of them masked and heavily armed.

New York American

MAY 8 1932

Prisoners Removed, Preventing Lynching

GASTONIA, N. C., May 7 (AP).—A mob gathered before the jail today and demanded two negroes who are charged with killing a filling station operator, but dispersed when shown the negroes were not in the jail. The negroes had been removed to Charlotte.

Tennessee

Lynchings-1932
6

3863

Side Lights.

Alabama Man Is Found Suspended From Tree

Advertiser
Montgomery, Ala.

NASHVILLE, TENN., Jan. 22.—(AP)—The body of a man identified by officers as Yancy Hawthorne Adams of Garden City, Ala., was found hanging from a tree five miles from here this afternoon.

1-23-32

Two Nashville men who were hunting in the vicinity found the body and notified the sheriff's office. Army discharge papers and a check for $10.50 from the Ontario, Canada, workmen's compensation board, with letters addressed to Hawthorne Adams and bearing the return address "Mrs Mary E. Adams, Garden City, Ala.," served as the basis for identification by officers.

The body was suspended by several strands of barbed wire. The coroner's inquest will be completed tomorrow.

Negro Is Sought In Ambush Attack

Macon Telegraph
3-6-32

Farm Couple Wounded by Shot Fired Through Window

Macon, Ga.

TRIUNE, Tenn., March 5. (UP)—Mrs. W. R. Haynes, 45, was shot in the face and her husband, a farmer, 50, was shot in the neck as they sat in their living room here Friday night by an unidentified person who fired once through a window from a distance of about twenty feet. They were taken to a hospital at Murfreesboro.

Mrs. Haynes' right eye was put out by the charge.

According to Sheriff J. K. Stephens, of Williamson county, a Negro man is being sought in connection with the shooting, which is believed to have been the aftermath of an altercation Friday afternoon between Haynes and the Negro. The Negro recently was employed by Haynes.

Bloodhounds trailed the Negro to his home where a shotgun, believed to be the one used in the shooting, was found. The Negro is said to have borrowed the gun from a neighbor to "kill a mad dog."

POSSE SEEKS NEGRO IN YOUTH'S SLAYING.

Constitution
6-11-32
Atlanta, Ga.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., June 10.—(AP)—A posse of deputies and citizens today continued a search of the bottom lands near White's creek and the Cumberland river at the edge of Nashville for four negroes, one of whom shot and killed [illegible] Henkel, 22, while he was swimming in the creek.

South Carolina.

3864

Lynchings-1932
G

Side Lights.

Hotel Porters Are Victims Of Mob Beatings

[illegible]
1-16-32

GREENVILLE, S. C., Jan. 14.—Two colored porters, employed at hotels here, were taken from their places of work by a masked mob of from 35 to 40 white men, and severely flogged last Thursday night. The two porters were Thomas Mayes and C. D. Dillard.

According to Mayes, three masked men drove up in a car to the hotel where he worked and commanded him to enter their car. Then they went to Dillard's hotel and repeated the process. "After a long ride we stopped and thirty-five or forty robed men took us out of the car and made Dillard get down on the ground and made me bend across him. They lashed me three times with a heavy strap. Then they made me get on the ground and made Dillard bend over me. They gave him ten or twelve lashes." Neither of the men could ascribe any reason for the flogging.

N.C. Mob Flogs 2 Hotel Porters

Amsterdam News
1/23/32

GREENVILLE, S. C. — Thomas Mayes and C. D. Dillard reported to police Friday how they had been flogged by a band of between 35 and 40 hooded and robed men. The men, hotel porters, were driven away from the hotel where they work by three of the band.

After going a distance, the men said, they were made to bend over each other on the ground and then then lashed. Mayes was lashed three times; Dillard ten or twelve times. No reason was given by the mob for its crime.

Posse Is Seeking Negro For Slaying Of Farmer

Advertiser
4-9-32

ABBEVILLE, S. C., April 8.—(AP)—A posse of approximately 150 offices, National Guardsmen and citizens tonight followed a baffling trail through mud and rain in quest of a negro who early today is alleged to have killed a 63-year-old farmer by slashing his throat.

Montgomery, Ala.

Battery F of the 115th Field Artillery of the South Carolina National Guard, upon request of Sheriff F. B. McLane, late today was called out to preserve order in event of the capture of Tom Wardlaw, 45, a negro charged by a coroner's jury with the crime.

A negro boy, Arthur Hill, 16, told a jury assembled by Coroner M. B. Cann this morning that Wardlaw, following a brief argument in a newly tilled field, with Andrew Ferguson, the farmer, threw Ferguson to the ground and slashed his throat several times with a knife.

ROAD LABORER IS LYNCHED IN S. C.

Afro-American
11-12-32

MULLINS, S.C.—Another lynching was added to this state's record when Henry Campbell was shot to death in a swamp by an armed posse near here after he is alleged to have shot and seriously wounded H. L. Tolbert, white, a road construction foreman.

Baltimore

An altercation between the two men, said to have grown out of Campbell's being discharged, is reported to have ended with the shooting of Tolbert. Several hundred men, heavily armed, surrounded Campbell in the swamp and riddled his body with bullets.

Negro Shot To Death In Swamp By Posse

Advertiser
11-2-32

MULLINS, S. C., Nov. 1—(AP)—Surrounded in a swamp by several hundred armed men, Henry Campbell, negro, was shot to death near here today after he had shot and seriously wounded H. L. Tolbert, of Athens, Ga., a road construction foreman.

Montgomery Ala.

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wounded H. L. Tolbert, of Athens, Ga., a road construction foreman.

Campbell shot Tolbert as the latter sat in his automobile at a road project near Buford's Cross Roads, Marion county. They had quarreled because the negro had been discharged, it was said.

Atlanta Ga.

A coroner's jury decided the killing was justifiable.

11-2-32

Tolbert was shot in the neck, a number of "slugs" entering it. Physicians at Mullins hospital said his chances were "slim."

NEGRO SLAIN BY POSSE AFTER WOUNDING MAN

[illegible]

MULLINS, S. C., Nov. 1.—(AP)—Surrounded in a swamp by several hundred armed men, Henry Campbell, negro, was shot to death near here today after he had shot and seriously

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NEGRO KILLER SLAIN RESISTING ARREST

Constitution
11-3-32

MULLINS, S. C., Nov. [illegible]—(AP)—Henry Campbell, negro, was killed while resisting arrest after he shot and wounded H. L. Tolbert, of Athens, Ga., a construction foreman, yesterday. Tolbert was in a serious condition today.

Lynchings-1932

Side Lights.

Texas.

3865

WHITE MEN FLOG NEGRO IN TEXAS

Tribune
Savannah Ga.
8/4/32

Beckville, Texas, July 30—Frank Minchew of Carthage, Texas, was severely flogged by a group of white men after his automobile allegedly struck and injured Frank Goode, white man, here today. Dr. J. F. Rouseau Beckville mayor, reported.

Goode accompanied by a group of friends, was walking along the highway when the colored man's automobile struck him and dragged him about 30 feet, witnesses said. When Minchew attempted to drive off, the men surrounded his car and forced him to get out, Mayor Rouseau said he had learned. He said he was then placed across a barrel and beaten with a leather strap.

East Texas White Mob Brutally Beat Negro Car Driver

Informer
Houston Texas
8/6/32

BEAUMONT, Aug. 4.—While driving through Beckville, a small community near here, last Sunday afternoon, Fred Minchew, widely known Negro citizen of Carthage, accidently struck Frank Goode, a Beckville white man. Minchew was dragged from his machine by a mob, which quickly assembled, and was brutally flogged.

Goode is reported to have accidently stepped in front of Minchew's car, and the latter not seeing him, struck Goode and carried him about thirty feet before he was attracted by his cries. He suffered several fractured ribs.

Members of the mob have boldly confessed their part in the crime. They told county authorities that Minchew's car was loaded with whiskey. The Carthage citizen denied this allegation.

After being administered the unmerciful flogging, Minchew was not allowed to continue on his journey. Neither was he arrested. He was ordered to return to Carthage. County authorities, who say they are conducting an investigation, have made no arrest in the case.

Lynchings-1932

Virginia

3866

Side Lights.

N. Y. [redacted]. WORLD - Telegram

JAN 13 1932

KILLER, IF FOUND, FACES LYNCHING

Posses Hunt Former Negro Servant, Believed Slayer of Two Women.

Special to the World-Telegram.

MIDDLEBURG, Va.. Jan. 13.—"A lynching wouldn't surprise me if the man who killed Mrs. Ilsley and her French maid last night is found," Jack Skinner, breeder of fancy hunting and racing horses, said today.

"The town is in an uproar," he continued. "A dozen man hunts have been organized for the Negro who, every one believes, clubbed the two women to death and robbed them.

"This Negro used to be a servant in the Ilsley home, but was discharged some months ago for stealing silverware. Mrs. Ilsley had a warrant out for his arrest.

Seen in Town.

"Suspicion immediately was directed to the former servant this morning when a number of people said they had seen him in town for the first time since his dismissal, yesterday. A woman with whom he was seen was arrested and is being questioned.

"You can't blame the people here for being stirred up about this, for it is the most cold-blooded murder we have had in this county since the Civil War.

"Mrs. Ilsley was a beautiful horsewoman," he continued, "and everybody around here thought a great deal of her. She was widely known throughout the county because of her political and welfare work, and had many friends.

Active in Hunts.

"For several years she had taken part in nearly all of the better hunts during the seasons here. She always kept a few hunting horses in her stables.

"She was active in organizing a society for the repeal of the prohibition laws and made a great many speeches in the county in behalf of her organization."

Mr. Skinner said her brother, Paul Boeing, had been with his sister here almost constantly since the death of her husband.

Threaten to Lynch Communist Candidate for Congress in Va.

NORFOLK, Va., S. W. Milligan Portsmouth Negro worker and Communist candidate for Congress was released by Detective Chiem Nowitzsky after being threatened with lynching and subjected to the most extreme abuse. Milligan was arrested by Nowitzsky without any charge when seen speaking to Fred Allen, Communist Party organizer, on the street.

The case of Fred Allen, and Bernard J. Thompson, held under $100 bond each, will come up Friday. They are charged with "vagrancy." Both were arrested at the August 1st anti-war demonstration at which they were speakers.

A Y. C. L. member was arrested for distributing leaflets on the battleship Wyoming protesting against the use of the armed forces to attack the veterans in Washington and calling upon the sailors and marines to refuse to fight against their fellow workers whether veterans or unemployed demanding food. The comrade was released after being threatened by officers.

Lyn .ngs-1932

3598

States, Special Information About Particular.

Cadiz, Ky., Record
Thursday, June 9, 1932

Merrick Lynching Makes Five In Ky.

That Have Taken Place In The State During And Since The Year 1923.

That Of Chester Fugate In Breathitt County One Of The Most Outstanding.

The lynching of Walter Merrick, forty-eight years of age, at Princeton, Caldwell county, on Tuesday night of last week, was the fifth lynching in Kentucky since 1923. The last previous lynching occured in Breathitt county on Christmas morning, 1929. Chester Fugate, also a white man, charged with slaying his landlord, Clay Watkins, was taken from the Breathitt jail, beaten and shot, and left apparently dead on a roadside.

Unclothed except for undergarments and suffering from exposure as well as serious wounds, Fugate was found several hours later. He surprised his lynchers by living several days—long enough to give officers a statement naming several as members of the mob. Eight men were indicted, including two county officials. Trials were held at Irvine, but there were no convictions.

A similarity in the two lynchings resulted since a principal figure in eash was chairman of their county board of education. Watkins, like P'Pool, held that office.

Savannah, Ga. Press
Friday, June 10, 1932

ANTI-LYNCHING BODY ON MINCEY DEATH

COMMISSION MAKES INTERESTING REFERENCES MONTGOMERY COUNTY

The Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching, of which Benjamin F. Hubert of Savannah is a member, has issued a pamphlet on "The Mob Murder of S. S. Mincy," which is of keen interest to this immediate section of Georgia. This is the commission headed by George Fort Milton, a newspaper editor of Chattanooga, Tenn., and included in its membership is Julian Harris of the Atlanta Constitution.

It will be recalled that at the meeting of the Georgia Press Association Institute at Athens, last winter, Mr. Milton read a paper in which he was rather sharp in his criticisms of Montgomery county and its people because of the lynching of S. S. Mincey, a negro Republican politician, and the failure of the authorities of the county to prosecute anyone for the commission of the crime. In "The Mob Murder of S. S. Mincey" there is a full review of this crime, and there are some references to Montgomery county that will, no doubt, attract much attention because of their frankness and directness in giving an estimate of the people of the county and a resume of the county's history and accomplishments.

The report on the Mincey flogging and death is much more in detail than was given in the address of Mr. Milton. In addition to the Mincey account, the pamphlet just issued tells how a threatened lynching was prevented in Sylvania, Screven county, another neighbor of Savannah.

In the foreword of the pamphlet, this announcement is made:

"The commission has selected for this purpose the mob death of S. S. Mincey, at Ailey, Montgomery county, Georgia, and the frustration of a threatened lynching at Sylvania, Screven county, Georgia. It will be noted that both cases are in rural counties. This is fitting, for while lynchings occur in urban communities, the likelihood of mob violence is greater in the rural counties, and greatest of all in those counties where economic surpluses are smallest, educational and cultural institutions least well supported, and police officers fewest, poorest paid, and most dependent upon local public opinion."

The Mincey resume is contained under four general heads. It is contended that Mincey was not accused of crime, that he was flogged by a mob and died the next day, that the reaction to the crime was pronounced, but nothing was ever done about it. Then are given facts about the community in which the flogging occurred. It is probably in the conclusions of the commission in this subject that the most interest lies at this time. This section of the report treats of the history and advantages and disadvantages of Montgomery county.

It tells of the settling of the community by the Scotch Highlanders, banished from their native land because of their adherence to the House of Stuart. Incidentally there is mention of the Darien lynching in September, 1930, with the reference to Darien as a "now decadent town" situated on the banks of the Altamaha river.

The fact that "propertyless whites from old Southern communities" came into the county between 1830 and 1860 is mentioned, and the record of the county up to 1930 is traced. It finds a vestige of old class distinction in the county between the middle class of whites of Scotch descent and the "poor whites." The former class, it is pointed out, insisted upon the punishment of Mincey's slayers.

Under the caption "A Poor Rural County," the report states:

"Ailey, one mile east of Mount Vernon, has less than 400 people, and claims to be one of the wealthiest towns in the United States per capita. Nearly all the people who live in Ailey are white plantation owners, merchants, and professional men. The people who work the large farms, the poorer whites and negroes, live in the open country. Except for the gas station operators, a few auto mechanics, day laborers, and domestics in these agricultural villages, nearly everybody in the county is directly dependent upon the farm and the farm folk's trade for a livelihood. There are but a few bankers, merchants, and professional men, and practically all of these, along with most of the county officials, own farm lands and live in Ailey or Mount Vernon.

"The county is rural and poor. The combined value of farm crops and manufactured products in 1924 amounted to only $130.92 per capita, one-sixteenth of which was from manufactures, while the state average was $310.78 per capita, more than three-fourths of which was from manufactures. The value of farm crops per rural inhabitant was $147, as compared with the state average of more than $150.

"There are many poor people in Montgomery county, and a few wealthy ones. Only thirteen income tax returns were filed in 1929, and only one of these was for an income of more than $5,000. Thirteen returns were made in 1927, and fourteen in 1924. In 1930 the county's bank deposits were $41.33 per capita, as compared with a state average of $155.89. To date, the county has had no bank failures, an evidence of the ability of the men managing them. Montgomery county's per capita valuation (exclusive of corporation taxes) for 1930 was $182.98 as against the state per capita average of $348.03. Automobiles are relatively scarce in Montgomery county, in 1930 there being one to every thirteen persons as compared with the state average of one to every 8.6 persons."

Investigators find little hopes of improvement in the county because the flatness of the country, the prevalence of malaria and the distance from all markets, all militate against the development or attraction of manufacturers of consequence in the near future.

Cotton and corn are given as the chief crops of the county, and cheap human labor tends to perpetuate old and crude systems of farming rather than inspire the introduction of new crops.

Revealing what is termed the sorry plight of the propertyless rural whites, the report says:

"The propertyless rural whites of Montgomery and surrounding counties are poor indeed. The Klan which they generally accepted as a way out, has failed them; cotton is cheap; there are no prosperous cities to run off to at will. Many of these men with their wives and children are emaciated in appearance, and look old beyond their years. One sees mothers with sunken chests and practically no teeth, little babies in arms with scabs on their heads and running sores about their ears, boys chewing tobacco before they are half grown, and girls staring and popping their gum. Men, women and children, dirty and unkempt, seething fatalism and pessimism are not uncommon sights. Now and then an intoxicated fellow breaks the monotony and adds to the sordidness of the picture.

"One Saturday afternoon, at a small town between Ailey and Ocilla, a snaggled-toothed white mother was seen carrying a six-months-old baby with a stick of candy in its mouth, stumbling over a half-grown pig just out of a street wallow midway between the bank and the Post Office. There is much of the frontier in this part of Georgia, without the frontier's typical virility."

There is very little spent for schools and education, the report concludes, the territory including Georgia's poorest white schools. The county pays rural white school teachers less than $500 a year. Declares the report:

"One can make a continuous motor trip from the Florida line through the county seat towns of Waycross, Hoboken, Blackshear, Baxley, Mount Vernon, Soperton, Dublin, Irwinton, Cochrane, Eastman, Alma, Hazelhurst, Douglas, Fitzgerald, Ocilla—with a lynching on February 1, 1930—Nashville, Valdosta, and back to Statenville on the Florida line—a journey of over 350 miles—without leaving territory where white rural teachers' salaries average less than $500 per year."

The Brewton-Parker Institute at Mount Vernon is found to be poorly supported, but an important institution

Reviewing the religious situation in Montgomery county, the Baptists are reported as having the largest white membership. The Baptist pastors, it is noted, took an active stand against the Mincey flogging, and the other undercover activities of the Klan and other masked groups. There are eleven white Methodist churches in the county, and the Primitive Baptist membership is small. This sect, it is announced, is "conscientiously opposed to foreign missions, church musical instruments and educated pastors."

Referring to the churches, this is said:

"The custom of having revival services, usually called "big meeting," is well established among both the white and negro rural churches. Usually in the midsummer slack-work seasons, after the cotton is 'laid by,' and before picking begins, a series of revival services is featured. These meetings give the once-a-month preachers a chance to stay in the community long enough to get new members. Usually an 'outside' preacher delivers the sermons, affording some swapping association among the preachers. To the church members, dwelling apart in solitary farm houses, the meetings give an opportunity for entertaining the preachers, mingling of neighbors at church, and neighborly visiting between afternoon and evening services. The subject matter of the sermons at these perennial revival seasons is calculatd to arouse people to the need of church membership, and the effectiveness of the series of meetings is usually measured by the 'additions to the church.' These revival meetings are most in evidence where Sunday schools are weakest."

The fact that there are few voters in Montgomery county is referred to and there is much space given to show that floggings have been conspicuous in the county. It is also contended that the county has an excessive percentage of lawlessness. The report concludes:

"The negroes are concentrated on the bigger plantations, and within the landlord-tenant pattern there exists a very cordial relation. Many of the larger plantation owners prefer negro to white tenants. This very fact has resulted in the poor whites looking with disfavor upon both the negro tenants and the plantation owners."

The Screven county case referred to in which a lynching was prevented is that where a negro confessed to entering the home of a farmer, struck the farmer's wife over the head with an ax, and attempted to assault an 18-year-old daughter. This negro, LeRoy Smith, was carried to Augusta for safe keeping, and later tried in Sylvania. He plead guilty and received a sentence of 30 years in the penitentiary. But, despite this plea, the report states the husband of the woman and father of the daughter persisted in declaring he believed the negro innocent.

Lynchings-1932

States, Special Information about, particular.

Republic
Phoenix, Ariz

APR 20 1932

Where The Trees Are Far Apart

The need of forestation in the state of Kansas is emphasized in a dispatch describing the lynching of a fiend who had murdered a little girl. The murderer had been arrested, spirited away and hidden in an unknown jail. Indignant citizens finding out where he was, took him by force from the jail. For sentimental reason, or by way of more spectacular retribution, they desired to hang him as close as possible to the scene of his crime, but they had to carry him five miles to the nearest tree. Considering the record of Kansas for informal executions there ought to be additional facilities for carrying them out.

Between 1889 and 1929 Kansas surpassed all northern states save Colorado in the number of lynchings, 25. Colorado had 29. Missouri had more but conditions there in the southern part, partake somewhat of the characteristics of the southern states. In all of them the lynching rate is high.

Considering the population of Kansas, its showing is still worse. In the period mentioned Illinois with many times the population of the Sunflower state, had only as many lynchings, 25; New York 2, Pennsylvania 3, Ohio 11. In many of the states there were no lynchings in 40 years. We have omitted Montana and California where wholesale summary action was taken in industrial disputes and also against a class of citizens of an earlier day who had not been aware that the frontier had passed.

Kansas has no legal execution. There is not, as many suppose, a law against capital punishment, but there is a law requiring that the governor must validate death warrants by his signature, and an unwritten law that he shall not practice penmanship on a death warrant. No Kansas governor has ever signed one though there have been many atrocious murders in that state, mostly in the rural districts, whereas in most other northern states homicides are generally committed in large centers of population.

It is not to be inferred that there are more per capita homicides there than in states where there is capital punishment, for the law is well enforced in Kansas, and a life sentence there generally means the period between the imposition of the sentence and the last breath of the murderer. There is no foolishness in murder trials as there has frequently been across the line in Missouri where murderers have escape on the flimsiest of technicalities. That accounts in part for the high lynching rate in Missouri which we have mentioned.

Kansas has another law which so far as we know no other state has, to keep those who have custody of murderers on their toes. A sheriff puts himself out of office by permitting one to be taken from him by lynchers, though he may be unable to defend his prisoner.

WICHITA, KANS.
BEACON

APR 18 1932

READ LYNCHING 1ST SINCE 1920

Kansas Mobs Have Taken Law Into Own Hands 48 Times

Topeka. April 18. (AP)—An unofficial check of Kansas Historical Society records and other sources showed the lynching early today of Richard Read near Atwood, marked the forty-eighth time mobs had exacted the death penalty without legal sanction in Kansas.

The last previous lynching in Kansas occurred April 19 1920, when a mob at Mulberry hanged Albert Evans, Negro, who had been identified by a 15-year-old girl as the man who had attacked her and slashed her throat with a razor.

Evans, accompanied by a white youth, Benjamin Workman, accosted the girl near Breezy Hills, Kas., authorities said.

Captured Pair

Milt Gould, who became sheriff that day replacing Clint Webb, ousted because of alleged laxity in dealing with mine disturbances took the attackers' trail, eventually captured Evans and Workman in a chase in which a railroad locomotive was used. A crowd aided the sheriff in the capture.

Shortly after the two men were placed in the Mulberry jail, a mob obtained the keys, took Evans to a high point on Main Street and hanged him in view of children returning home from school. The sheriff was able to save the white youth. Officers testified at an inquest that Evans had admitted guilt.

Altho it did not abolish capital punishment until 1902—except for treason—the state of Kansas last carried out the death penalty in 1870. Only five persons previously had been hanged by the state. Bills to restore capital punishment for murder and robbery with firearms were vetoed by Gov. Harry H. Woodring last year.

The list of lynchings in Kansas, as compiled unofficially:

1857—John C. Quarles and Bill Bayes, Leavenworth, murder.

1858—Claywell, Coffey County, horse thief.

1861—Ike Edwards, Topeka, murder.

1861—Samuel Scott, border warfare.

1863—Five men, Sterling, Brewer, Pony, Moody and another hanged for series of crimes in Atchison County.

1864—Goisney Marshall County, murder.

1865—Carl Eden, Jackson County, murder.

1866—Elias Foster, Mound City, murder.

1868—Joe Tippy and Sam Tippy, Monmouth, crime unknown.

1870—Jack Corbin, William Quimby, Dr. Morris and son and Mike Dray, Butler County, horse thieves.

1874—Bill Brooks, Charles Hasbrook and Charley Smith, Wellington, horse thieves. Tom Smith lynched at Wellington about same time. Smiths identified as Tom Ford and Sewell Ford, sons of former Governor Ford of Illinois.

1878—Negro burned to death at Fort Scott as accused attacker of girl.

1883—Brown, Wheeler, Smith and Wesley, Medicine Lodge, bank robbery.

1885—Pete Vinegar, George Robertson and Isaac King, Lawrence, murder.

1885—George F. Mack Great Bend, murder.

1885 Frank Bonham, accused of slaying his parents, hanged at Independence.

1893—Dana Adams Salina, accused of attacking a railroad man.

1889—Pat Cleary, Lincoln, murder.

1889—Nat Oliphant, Topeka, murder.

1892—Commodore True, Brown County, crime unknown.

1900—George Silsbee and Ed Silsbee, Fort Scott, murder.

1901—Fred Alexander Negro, Leavenworth, attempted assault. (Burned at stake).

1902—Mont Godley, Negro, accused of killing Officer Milt Hinkle, hanged Christmas eve, in Pittsburg.

1902—Sanderson, Holton, murder.

1916—Bert Dudley, Olathe, murder.

Horse thief and a murderer reported lynched in Marshall County, no date given.

April 19, 1920, Albert Evans, Negro, criminal attack.

KANSAS CITY, MO.
STAR

APR 18 1932

STATE LISTS 45 LYNCHINGS.

Mob's Raid Near Atwood Is First in Kansas Since 1920.

(By the Associated Press.)

TOPEKA, April 18.—An unofficial check of Kansas Historical Society records and other sources showed the lynching early today of Richard Rear near Atwood marked the forty-fifth time mobs had exacted the death penalty without legal sanction in Kansas.

The last previous lynching in Kansas occurred April 19, 1920, when a mob at Mulberry hanged Albert Evans, Negro, who had been identified by a 15-year-old girl as the man who had attacked her and slashed her throat with a razor.

Evans, accompanied by a white youth, Benjamin Workman, accosted the girl near Breezy Hill, Kas., authorities said.

Milt Gould, who became sheriff that day, replacing Clint Webb, ousted because of alleged laxity in dealing with mine disturbances, took the attackers' trail, eventually capturing Evans and Workman in a chase in which a railroad locomotive was used. A crowd aide thde sheriff in the capture.

Shortly after the two men were placed in the Mulberry jail, a mob obtained the keys, took Evans to a high point on Main street and hanged him in view of children returning home from school. The sheriff was able to save the white youth. Officers testified at an inquest that Evans had admitted guilt.

Although it did not abolish capital punishment until 1902—except for treason—the state of Kansas last carried out the death penalty in 1870. Only five persons previously had been hanged by the state. Bills to restore capital punishment for murder and robbery with firearms were vetoed by Governor Woodring last year.

The death penalty has been influcted at least three times in Kansas by the federal government, the last time at Leavenworth, September 5, 1930, when Carl Panzran, a convict, was hanged in federal penitentiary there for the slaying of W. G. Warnkee, a civilian laundry foreman at the institution.

The list of lynchings in Kansas as compiled unofficially:

1857—John C. Quarles and Bill Bayes, Leavenworth, murder.

1858—Claywell, Coffey County, horse-thief.

1861—Ike Edwards, Topeka, murder.

1861—Samuel Scott, border warfare.

1863—Five men, Sterling, Brewer, Pony, Moody and another, hanged for series of crimes in Atchison County.

1864—Goisney, Marshall County, murder.

1865—Carl Eden, Jackson County, murder.

1866—Elias Foster, Mound City, murder.

1868—Joe Tippy and Sam Tippy, Monmouth, crime not listed.

1870—Jack Corbin, William Quimby, Dr. Morris and son and Mike Dray, Butler County, horse thieves.

1874—Bill Brooks, Charles Hasbrook and Charley Smith, Wellington, horse thieves. Tom Smith lynched at Wellington about same time. The Smiths were identified as Tom Ford and Sewell Ford, sons of ex-Governor Ford of Illinois.

1878—Negro burned to death at Fort Scott as attacker of girl.

1883—Brown, Wheeler, Smith and Wesley, Medicine Lodge, bank robbery.

1885—Pete Vinegar, George Robertson and Isaac King, Lawrence, murder.

1885—George F. Mack, Great Bend, murder.

1889—Pat Cleary, Lincoln, murder.

1889—Nat Oliphant, Topeka, murder.

1892—Commodore True, Brwn Cunty, crime not listed.

1900—George Silsbee and Ed Silsbee, Fort Scott, murder.

1901—Fred Alexander, Negro, Leavenworth, attempted assault; burned at stake.

1902—Sanderson, Holton, murder.

1916—Bert Dudley, Olathe, murder.

Horsethief and a murderer reported lynched in Marshall County; no date given.

WICHITA, KANS.
MORNING EAGLE

APR 18 1932

Kansas Free of Lynchings Since 1916

TOPEKA, April 18.—(Monday)—(AP)—Unofficial records show that Kansas has been free of lynchings since 1916, when a mob hanged Bert Dudley at Olathe, for the reputed slaying of an elderly couple.

Tabulations show that citizens have taken the law into their own hands 19 times.

Passage of what is known as the mob law bill, which followed the burning at the stake of a negro in Leavenworth in 1901, is credited with preventing the growth of mob activity.

In 1889, 15,000 persons witnessed the hanging of Nat Oliphont, alleged murderer, on the main street at Topeka, the state capital.

The day before, Pat Cleary, convicted murderer, was hanged to a bridge in Lincoln.

Other records show that three men were hanged from the same tree on the outskirts of Medicine Lodge in 1883. They had robbed a Medicine Lodge bank.

In the early eighties three negroes were hanged from a bridge across the Kaw river in Lawrence. In 1871 a triple lynching occurred near Wellington where Charles Smith, Bill Brooks and Charles Hasbrook, supposed to have been horse thieves, were hanged.

A mob of farmers took charge of the Atchison jail in 1863 and tried five men for a series of crimes. Each was convicted and hanged.

Carl Eden was lynched in Holton in 1865. He was an accused murderer.

Valdosta, Ga. Times
Tuesday, January 19, 1932

LOWNDES HAS NO LYNCHINGS

During Past Ten Years, Report From Prevention Group Reveals Today

WERE NONE IN 1931

Lowndes county has not had a lynching within the past 10 years, according to a report from the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching received by Sheriff J. L. Spivey today.

During the past 10 years, 1921 through 1931, there were 26 lynchings in Georgia, the report shows. During 1931, the report states that there were no lynchings in Georgia.

The report included a letter from Mrs. W. A. Turner, Newnan- of the executive committee of the association, thanking the sheriffs of the state for their adherence to their duties and courage in enforcement of the law. "To you we express our appreciation of Georgia's record of 'no lynchings' in 1931. We know the sheriffs of our state played no small part in making this record possible," the letter read in part.

Four counties, Washington, Thomas, Liberty and Hancock, led the other counties of the state in lynchings during the 10-year period, each having two. Baldwin, Barrow, Bartow, Bleckley, Coffee, Colquitt, Columbia, Crisp, Houston, Irwin, Miller, Meriwether, Monroe, Montgomery, McIntosh, Schley, Screven and Wayne counties had one lynching each during the period of 10 years, the report reveals.

Lynchings in the state during the 10 years are grouped as follows in the report, the number for each group of alleged offenses being: Rape 8, murder 7, attempted murder 3, attempted rape 3, no charge 3, attempted burglary and assault 1, and complicity in murder 1.

Speaking of the record of "no lynchings" in Georgia during 1931, the report states: "For the fourth time in recorded history our state has proved itself stronger than its mobs."

The Kansas Historical Quarterly
Vol.11, No. 2 May 1933
Kansas State Historical Society
Topeka, Kansas

History of Lynchings in Kansas

GENEVIEVE YOST

ON April 18, 1932, Kansas was shocked by the lynching of Robert Read, in Rawlins county. Not since April 19, 1920, twelve years before, when Albert Evans was hanged at Mulberry, Crawford county, had there been a lynching in Kansas.

The newspapers, in reporting the story, desired a list of previous lynchings in the state, and a record of about fifty was very hurriedly compiled in the library of the Kansas State Historical Society. This list, when published, aroused the interest of papers and individuals and brought in additional items. The Russell *Record* headed a front-page story in the following issue of its paper with the line, "Hey! Russell had a lynching, too."[1] Interest grew until it was decided to prepare a list of lynchings in Kansas which should be as complete as possible. Such a list is valuable, not merely for its numbers and dates, but, as this paper shows, because it reflects certain phases of the economic, social, and industrial development and growth of the state.

This list has been compiled through histories, newspapers, recollections of early settlers, and associations interested in the subject, including the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, the National Association of Advancement for Colored People, the Tuskegee Institute, and the Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching. While these institutions are interested mainly from the standpoint of race prejudice, they have contributed valuable assistance. All accounts, whenever possible, have been checked by contemporary newspapers as a final authority.

While this list is presented as being complete as possible, there probably occurred some not mentioned. Rumors and vague accounts of about two dozen not listed were found, but the information of time or place was indefinite. There is no reason to doubt that most of them did take place, but not enough data is available at present to warrant their inclusion in this list.

The lynch law, popularly spoken of as Judge Lynch, is the name for irregular punishment, especially capital, inflicted by private individuals independently of legal authorities. The working definition which compilers of lynching records have generally used is a man studying the original sources without regard to people's getting the advantage of his studies. . . . A history had to be founded on the original sources, he held; but then, also, it had to be interesting, or it might as well not be at all."

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[1] Russell *Record*, April 21, 1932.

In his numerous direct quotations in *Kanzas and Nebraska,* Mr. Hale brought his sources to his very reader, but he also chose those quotations to interest as well as inform his reader.

that "lynching has to do with individuals supplanting the law and acting in defiance of the law." [2] On this basis the general practice of compilers of lynching records has been not to include in such records persons put to death in what are commonly designated as riots. In a riot there occurs promiscuous killing of individuals, and in a lynching particular individuals are seized and put to death for alleged specified offenses. By the laws of some states a minimum of three persons may constitute a mob; by others, five.

The Kansas statutes have several definitions of a mob. Three persons may constitute an unlawful assembly. "If three or more persons shall assemble together with intent to do any unlawful act with force and violence against the person or property of another. . ." [3]

It requires five persons to constitute a mob for whose actions a city may be held legally responsible. Since 1868 cities have been liable for damages in consequence of the action of mobs within their corporate limits. In 1923 the legislature added a clause defining this mob: "*Provided, however*, that the number of persons that shall constitute a mob under this act shall be five or more." [4]

In the section which defines lynchings the number is not stated. "That any collection of individuals assembled for an unlawful purpose, intending to injure any person by violence, and without authority of law, shall for the purpose of this act be regarded as a mob." [5]

The origin of the use of the word lynching to denote summary justice at the hands of a mob or an improvised tribunal is obscure. By some it is said to be from James Lynch Fitz-Stephen, warden of Galway, Ireland, who, about 1526, sentenced his son to death for murder, and to prevent a rescue by a mob executed him with his own hands without due process of law. By others the term is said to have had its origin in Virginia, where a farmer named Charles Lynch took his own way of obtaining redress for a theft by catching the culprit, tying him to a tree and flogging him. The popular conception of lynching and the method most often chosen is hanging, called in the vernacular a "necktie party," but it is not so limited. Offenders have been shot, beaten to death and burned at the stake with the same intention and the same result.

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2. F. C. C. C. A., *Law and the Mob* (1925), p. 5.
3. *General Statutes*, Kansas, 1868, ch. 31, sec. 268.
4. *Laws*, Kansas, 1923, ch. 79, sec. 1.
5. *Laws*, Kansas, 1923, ch. 221, sec. 1.

The history of lynchings in the early days of Kansas must necessarily remain incomplete. We may suppose that it was as common, if not more so, in the first periods of the territory and state as later, and unfortunately complete records of these times are lacking. We look to the newspapers for such things, and while we find early papers in the eastern section of Kansas, they did not follow the people quite so rapidly to the western part of the state. Even the papers which existed could not collect news from so large an area as we of to-day expect. Communication was slow and uncertain, and many lynchings were not heard of three or four counties away. Sometimes rumors drifted over and we find a statement like this: "A gentleman from Franklin county said eleven horses were stolen, six men arrested, two shot, two hung and two dismissed."[6] One might be reasonably certain that a lynching of some sort had occurred. Many an article in a good county history and many a reminiscence by a pioneer starts thus: "Back in the '70's . . ."

This vagueness is due partly to inability to get the facts, and is partly because a lynching did not cause so much consternation then as it does now. Lynchings were more common, the people accepted them as necessary punishments, and they were not impressed so forcibly on the mind and conscience as to-day. It is quite probable that many a person forfeited his life to a self-detailed jury, if not to a frenzied mob, whose death was never in any way recorded.

In some instances the criminal himself preferred that he go unnamed. One thief, when shot and dying, refused to give any information about himself, saying he came from a good family and preferred not to have the name degraded.[7] In Johnson county "one unlucky thief lies two feet below the surface on Tommyhawk creek, whose name, place of residence and all else concerning him are unknown unless he gave such particulars to his executioners and, if so, they never told. As nothing concerning him was divulged for several years, the poor rascal's friends, if he had any, must have wondered not a little as to what had become of him. Another unlucky soul disappeared in the same vicinity in similar style, but his executioners were so reticent that no particulars could ever be obtained."[8] Concerning the first man mentioned, the Olathe *Mirror* says: "It is rumored in town last Saturday that a horse thief had been caught and hung out on Tommyhawk creek. We can gather nothing definite about the matter."[9] It was not always possible for the newspapers to give full information concerning a lynching, even though they desired to do so.

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[6] Lawrence *Tribune,* June 18, 1864.

[7] Horse thief shot in Wabaunsee county, Dec. 15, 1862.—*Kansas State Journal,* Lawrence, December 25, 1862.

[8] Heisler & Smith, *Johnson County Atlas* (1874), p. 34.

It is sometimes difficult to tell when a lynching is a lynching. Often a "neck-tie party" was accompanied by an impromptu court which considered itself, and was considered by the community, legal. In Coffey county "a mob held trial and asked those in favor of death to pass to the right of the building and those against to the left. Nine-tenths went to the right."[10] In Atchison in April, 1863, a mob took possession of the jail and courthouse for a week; they held court and tried each prisoner, with four or five lynchings as the result.[11] The people banded themselves into vigilance committees for the protection of themselves and their property, and death punishment by these committees was seldom considered illegal. In those days the squatters' courts were as much respected and as effective as the government courts.

In the days of the 1860's the slavery agitation made the difference between a lynching and a legal hanging quite often a matter of personal opinion and party affiliation. The Civil War in Kansas was characterized by guerrilla and bushwhacker warfare, and a hanging considered legal by one side was lynching by the other; accounts of this time depend upon which record or newspaper one reads. According to the accepted definition many of the massacres and murders perpetrated on the border of the state might be called lynchings. When a group of proslavery men massacred a free-state man they acted in accord with the sentiment of at least part of the town, who might call it supplanting the law, while the free-state men considered it acting in defiance of the law. John Brown's massacre of the Doyle family on June 24, 1856, fulfills the technical requirements of a lynching; it consisted of more than five people, and he considered it punishment for the sacking of Lawrence on May 21 by the proslavery element. But it would be difficult for any nonpartisan person now to consider any act of John Brown's a lynching. The Marais des Cygnes massacre on May 19, 1858, when five men near Trading Post, Linn county, were taken to a ravine and murdered is in the same class of border warfare. Neither side could be said to represent the sentiment of the community as a whole, and both sides were inflamed by the hatred of the Border war.

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[9] Olathe *Mirror*, May 31, 1866.

[10] Burlington *Republican*, December 14, 1908.

[11] Kansas City *Journal*, March, 1902; "Atchison County Clippings" (compiled by Kansas State Historical Society), v. 4, p. 50.

An incident which illustrates the difficulty of distinguishing between lynchings and murder was the hanging on November 12, 1860, of Russell Hinds, a farmer living near Pleasanton, Linn county, who returned a runaway slave to his master in Missouri. Dr. C. R. Jennison, heading a party of free-state men, arrested him, quickly convened a court, sentenced and hanged him for this offense. It would be difficult to convince any southerner that this was a lynching and not a murder.[12]

On July 10, 1860, L. D. Moore was one of a party who lynched Hugh Carlin, a horse thief. On November 16, 1860, Jennison, with twenty-five men entered Moore's house and shot him in retaliation.[13] This incident satisfies the definition of lynching, but it probably savors more of guerrilla warfare.

A recent account of an event of the war would call the following a lynching: "Col. C. R. Jennison, later in command of the fifteenth Kansas, captured Samuel Scott, one of the most notorious proslavery ruffians. Scott was hanged without ceremony, and his fate met with the approval of free-state leaders."[14] While the free-state leaders considered it a lynching, very probably the proslavery faction called it murder or, at least, border warfare.

This doubtful status of lynchings during the Civil War period is shown very plainly by the contrasting opinions in a letter written at the time of a hanging and those in later accounts of the same event. On February 5, 1860, John R. Guthrie was hanged at Mapleton, Bourbon county. In the manuscript collection of the Kansas State Historical Society is a letter written by Alpheus H. Tanner which gives an interesting account of the affair.[15]

"Mapleton, K. T., Feb. 12, 1860.

"MY DEAR PARENTS: . . . Last Sunday night about 1 o'clock a man named John R. Guthrie was hanged about a mile and a half from here on the top of what is known as Tigret Mound. He was left suspended until Monday eve. His corpse was in plain sight from here as he hung. The proslavery's hung him for an alleged crime of horse stealing. They arrested him without authority or shadow of law and never gave him even a mock trial, as has generally been the case. The country is again in commotion. I know not what will be the result, the probability is that unless Montgomery takes the field again it will soon blow over and give them a chance to hang the next ones that gets in their way. . . —A. H. T."

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[12] Tabor, "This Day in Kansas History" (volume bound by Kansas State Historical Society), p. 132; Leavenworth *Times*, February 12, 1928, in "Crimes and Criminals Clippings" (Kansas State Historical Society), v. 2, pp. 295, 296.

[13] Andreas, *History of Kansas* (1883), p. 1070.

[14] Tabor, "This Day in Kansas History," p. 132.

[15] Alpheus Hiram Tanner was born in Ruggles, Ohio, July 28, 1836. He came to Kansas in 1857, living first in Pleasanton. In 1918 he lived on a farm in Bourbon county on the Osage river, near Mapleton.

An account of this same event, as written in 1932 by C. E. Cory to the Historical Society, describes him as a horse thief:

> "I know a story I think worth preserving of a Bourbon county execution without benefit of clergy, but it was not a lynching. I have had the story from a lot of people, including two eyewitnesses—not participants, of course. (?) Away back in the later territorial days, when Bourbon county was in the 'region beyant the law,' a young man named Guthrie was caught up near Mapleton riding somebody else's horse. Everybody knows that at that time in those parts, horse stealing and nigger chasing and homicide were offenses in a class by themselves. The hard-headed and hard-fisted farmers thereabouts gathered in a hurry. But there were no courts that they respected or had reason to respect. What to do?
>
> "Just across the river south of Mapleton in the Little Osage bottom is a little round hill about three hundred feet high shaped almost exactly like an overturned soup bowl. They adjourned to the top of that hill. There they elected a judge and a sheriff and a prosecuting attorney. They selected a jury and tried their man, who admitted his guilt. After the verdict and the proper sentence, the sheriff had no place to keep the man, so he executed the sentence at once by hanging him to the limb of a jack oak tree nearby. His body was buried where it was cut down. It is there yet.
>
> "From what I have been told I am quite satisfied that that trial was quite as regular and formal as many cases in the regular courts of that day, though not sanctioned by the law.
>
> "By the way, that hill is the same 'pretty little hill' where Lieut. Zebulon M. Pike ate the fried venison steak that September morning in 1806, as he notes in his journal. It is still called Guthrie mountain, and is one of the real beauty spots of old Bourbon." [16]

With such conflicting accounts, who, seventy-two years after the event, shall dare to say whether this lynching was the justifiable punishment of a horse thief or the fate of a victim of border warfare?

While it is difficult to decide whether some of the events are lynchings or murders, there are a few which may be classed as lynchings and charged to border warfare. In Lawrence on August 22, 1863, the day after the Quantrill raid, Thomas Corlew was tried by a lynch court on the charge of having been a spy and hanged in a barn near the City Hotel at the north end of Massachusetts street. Mr. James C. Horton[17] wrote concerning the event:

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[16] Letter from C. E. Cory, June 31, 1932. Extract from *Expeditions of Zebulon M. Pike* (1895), v. 2, p. 396: "In about five miles we struck a beautiful hill, which bears south on the prairie; its elevation I suppose to be 100 feet. From its summit the view is sublime to the east and southeast. We waited on this hill to breakfast and had to send two miles for water. Killed a deer on the rise, which was soon roasting before the fire . . ." A footnote to this edition says, "Camp is in Bourbon county, somewhere in the vicinity of Xenia, Zenia, or Hay, a small place near a branch of the Little Osage."

> "I was there during the whole proceeding and went to one or two parties whom I thought might stop it, but to no avail. My recollection is that the jury did not find any evidence against him and so reported. His hanging was perhaps a natural outcome of the excited state of public feeling at that time, as Corlew was a Missourian and was said to have been acting with the proslavery men in 1856, but I think that many people in Lawrence regretted the occurrence and in ordinary, quiet times no such termination of a trial, even by a lynch court, would have been permitted."[18]

Since it is difficult to classify the massacres and murders of this period in a nonpartisan manner, most of them have been omitted from this list. The few which are given here as accepted lynchings are recorded as being caused by border warfare.

The guerrilla style of warfare of some of the authorized regiments on the border gave rise to groups of robbers and bushwhackers who carried on private enterprise under the anonymity employed by armies of both sides. The "Red Legs," organized by a group of men who did not wish to submit to the routine of the regular army, were employed in scouting, dispatch carrying and guiding and wore, as a distinguishing mark, leggings of red morocco. The desperadoes of the country soon learned to wear red leggings so that the blame for their depredations might be avoided. Owing to repeated complaints of this nature the organization was soon dissolved. Whenever possible distinction has been made between the legitimate forces of warfare and the thieves and bushwhackers operating under their name. Killing of disguised desperadoes has been considered lynching.

While extrajudicial punishment has been common in all countries and states, it has features which are sectional. This border warfare constituted a feature peculiar to Kansas and a few other states, since not every state was divided into factions with such intensive fighting within its borders. Because our states did not pass through the stages of their development at the same time, it is impossible to compare them by years. When Judge Lynch held court in California, in the stirring days of 1849, the eastern section of the country had passed through its formative period and was well organized.

But lynching was practically unheard of in New England at any time in its history, so far as its records show. The Chicago *Tribune* of April 6, 1931, makes this assertion: "States which have never had a recorded lynching include Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont." The Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America limits it further: "There are only four—Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont —where such an atrocity has not been recorded for any community in the commonwealth. In four others—Connecticut, Maine, New Jersey and Utah—there has been no recorded lynching since 1889." [19] Walter White, secretary of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People, also says: "Only four states of the Union have never been stained by a lynching—Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Vermont." [20] Thus the escutcheon of two-thirds of New England, and New England only, is entirely clear. The Lawrence *Western Home Journal* of 1882 reprints a comment of the Chicago *Inter-Ocean* on an article on mob law written by Professor David Swing: "The slightest regard of crime throughout this country is alarming, and the professor's conclusion that in a few more years lynching will probably be the fashion in all the states west of New England rings like a prophecy." [21] Evidently, even in 1882, New England was considered immune from the epidemic.

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[17] James Clark Horton was born at Ballston Spa, New York, May 15, 1837; came to Kansas and settled at Lawrence in March, 1857. He served in the house of representatives in 1874 and in the senate in 1875 and 1876. In 1878 he moved to Kansas City, where he died May 14, 1907.

[18] James C. Horton, Kansas City, to Hon. George W. Martin, Kansas State Historical Society, May 22, 1905. Letter, in MSS. of Kansas State Historical Society.

Such a record must have a reason, and we find possible causes in several conditions. New England had few reasons for lynchings. Of the three main causes—murder, rape and robbery—two scarcely existed in New England as known in other sections. Rape by the negroes of the South and horse stealing in the West were two problems that New England did not have to deal with, so there remains only murder. The lives of the people in New England were plain and simple and ordered by rule and regulation. The settlements were close together, agriculture demanded only small farms and the people, recently come from a thickly-settled old country, desired contact with neighbors both for company and for protection. Many of the early settlements were made by well-organized companies under leaders and officers who, in many cases, supervised personal conduct to a minute detail. Few criminals escaped legal punishment. Justice was more surely pronounced and administered, and the people looked to the officials for punishment, having faith that it would be forthcoming. Religion played its part, for the church was a strong influence in civil government, in making laws and in meting out punishment.

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[19] *Mob Murder in America* (1923), pamphlet, p. 5.

[20] White, *Rope and Faggot* (1919), p. 230.

[21] Lawrence *Western Home Journal,* May 25, 1882.

A large percentage of the New England settlers had come from England where lynchings occurred very seldom. At the time of a lynching in Leavenworth in 1902, this comparison was part of an editorial in the *Review of Reviews:* "But if the Leavenworth lynching had occurred in England, the ringleaders would certainly have been hanged and probably a hundred others put in prison for life, while the authorities who failed to take due precautions to guard their prisoner would not have escaped lightly." [22]

The attitude of England toward lynchings is again expressed by a letter signed "R. H.," written from England and published in the Junction City *Union* in 1867:

> "In the most recent of the papers you have sent me, I have seen with pain the account of the application of lynch law to colored persons who were in prison. The only pleasant part of the matter is the shame and indignation that you and others in your state have for the violation of law. In our country, I am sorry to say, that any accounts of this kind from America are hailed with delight by a section of our people, as if they indicated essential feebleness and failure of republican institutions."[23]

In the apprehension, prosecution, and punishment of criminals these early New Englanders found their chief source of diversion and amusement. They did not believe in lonely captivity but in public obloquy for criminals. The most exciting and stirring emotions in their lives came through these public exhibitions.[24] Sentences of whipping were usually to be carried out "on the next lecture day" when the crowd gathered. Such an attitude produced the stocks, pillories, whipping posts and ducking stools. The quick, effective lynching provided none of the exhibition of punishment as this section of the country wanted it.

The Southern states, of course, bear the unenviable record for lynchings, in the past and present alike, due to racial conflict. After the abolition of slavery it became an unwritten law in the South to punish by mob rule negroes charged with rape or assault or with the murder of a white person, and the custom is hard to forget. The study of lynchings in the United States to-day is chiefly concerned with the Southern states.

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[22] *Review of Reviews*, v. 23 (March, 1901), p. 263.

[23] "R. H." letter headed Wigan, England, July 22, 1867, published in Junction City *Union*, August 17, 1867. R. H. is probably Richard J. Hinton, a free-state pioneer of Kansas and friend of John Brown. According to a biography by W. E. Connelley, in *Kansas Historical Collections*, v. 7, p. 491, "some years after the close of the war he went on extensive travels in Europe, Asia, and Africa . . . commissioner of emigration in Europe, 1867."

[24] Earle, *Stage Coach and Tavern Days* (1900), p. 214.

Aside from the South, it was in the West that lynchings flourished, and Kansas was of the early West. This West had a reputation for lawlessness that was, at least in part, deserved. This was partly because of the social conditions which prevailed during the period of development, and partly because many of the laws were not made for the existing geographical conditions and were unsuitable for them.

The nature of the country made settlements few and far between. In the early period the restraint of law could not make itself felt in the rarefied population. Territory extended faster than did effective government organization for the punishment of offenders, and men learned to mete it out themselves. Each man had to make his own law because there was no other to make it. It was but a step to individual enforcement of laws and punishment of offenders. The population had a high percentage of criminals who had fled from justice in other sections. Two lynched in Kansas for horse stealing were identified as sons of an ex-governor of Illinois, according to a Kansas City newspaper of 1910.[25]

Perhaps the fact that human life was not considered very valuable made it hard to convict a man for murder, while at the same time it made the taking of life in punishment more casual. Men went armed and moved over vast areas with other armed men, and among them the six-shooter was the final decision in an argument. While the tales of "shootin' Dodge" and the rip-roaring cowboys who fired on any provocation doubtless exaggerate the number of men who lie on various Boot Hills, there can be no question that the continuous dangerous existence developed callousness to the taking of life. Under such conditions homicide did not entail the stigma that more thickly settled regions associated with it. Men were equal and each was his own defender. His survival imposed upon him certain obligations which, if he were a man, he would accept. Murder was too harsh a word for the final settling of an argument by gun play, but lynching was not too severe for offenders against the code of laws the men of the West respected.

Added to the lawlessness of the criminal code which grew out of the social conditions in the early days was a general disregard for civil laws which were wholly inapplicable and unsuited to the West. Congress passed laws which the settlers could not enforce in the prairie country, such as the water law, prohibiting all diversion of water from a stream, making irrigation impossible; and the timber act, granting land free on condition that the grantee grow forests on it. When men could not abide by a civil law they came to lose respect for it, and this disrespect influenced their attitude toward other restraining factors, such as criminal and social laws.

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[25] Clipping, marked only "Kansas City, Oct. 1910," in "Sumner County Clippings" (compiled by Kansas State Historical Society), v. 1, p. 287.

The West was turbulent in the early days because there was no law. It was lawless in the later period because the laws were unsuited to the needs and conditions of the country.[26]

The following study of the records of lynchings in Kansas from 1856 to 1932 reveals some interesting facts concerning prevalence and causes. These figures as here tabulated show the greatest number in 1860-1870, the period of the opening and early development of the state. In the decade of 1850 much of Kansas was still unsettled country, and in the fringe of settlements on the eastern border was a pioneer life of which we have now only a few contemporary records. In proportion to the population there was probably as much summary punishment of criminals as in later periods. The decade of 1860 saw the beginning of statehood with its civil laws and increased population. Emigrants from the north and south brought the Civil War, which produced the border warfare responsible for much of the lawlessness. More newspapers were printed and saved to give us a record of the time. From 1870 there was a steady decline in the number of lynchings for each ten-year period until 1900, when it remains at one for each decade after that, if we may suppose that the allotted lynching for 1930-1940 has already been produced in 1932. The number was still large in 1870, and would probably be larger if all of the records had been preserved, for that was the period of the cattleman in Kansas, and horses and cattle were favorite plunder for thieves and desperadoes. This was also the period in which men were hanged, but not always lynched, by the vigilantes, as will be discussed later. The gradual decline was due to a change in social conditions and the incoming civilization.

Decade starting	*1850*	*1860*	*1870*	*1880*	*1890*	*1900*	*1910*	*1920*	*1930*	*Total*
Horse stealing	13	54	26	....	....	....	....	....	....	93
Cattle stealing	1	1	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Murder	2	23	13	21	14	3	1	....	....	77
Rape	....	7	....	3	2	1	....	1	1	15
Robbery	2	7	....	4	....	....	....	....	....	13
Border warfare	....	2	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Misc. & unknown	1	2	....	1	....	....	....	....	....	4
Total	19	96	39	29	16	4	1	1	1	206

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[26] Webb, *Great Plains* (1931), pp. 498-500.

As we see, the crime in the West and in Kansas which most often brought lynching as a swift retribution was horse stealing. What the negro problem was to the South as a cause for lynching, horse stealing was to the West. One almost receives the impression that it was the principal industry of some communities. Probably it was a southern sympathizer who said that if the pedigrees of the horses on the eastern line could be given, most of them would say "out of Missouri by Jennison." Concerning Johnson county it was written: "In the line of farmers bordering on Indian creek it was estimated that no less than sixty horses, besides many head of cattle, were stolen one summer, and the proportion was nearly the same throughout the county." [27] An account of the breaking up of horse thieves in eastern Kansas says: "The line of operations extended from Kansas City to Omaha and perhaps beyond, with the stations in between for concealing horses." [28] Organizations were formed for protection, such as the Wild Cat Horse Guards, organized April 21, 1877, in Nemaha county. The members were owners of horses and mules, who had their animals appraised and enrolled, and if stolen received two-thirds of the appraised value from the company.

The National Anti-Horse-Thief Association, organized in Missouri in 1854, had more need of activity in Kansas than any other state. In 1911 over half of its 40,000 membership was in Kansas, the other half being divided among seven other states. At least three Kansans have been national presidents, and the *News*, a paper authorized by the Kansas division in 1901 and published at St. Paul, by W. W. Graves, was made the organ of the national society in 1902.

The situation occupied even the attention of the executive office, and in 1863 this message was issued by Gov. Thomas Carney:

> "State of Kansas, Exec. Dept.,
> "Topeka, July 29, 1863.
>
> "The condition of Kansas, in one respect, is to be deplored. I mean the prevalence of robberies, and the too great disregard of law. This condition results, as I believe, not from any want of power to enforce the civil law, but from a want of what I may term central sources of information and [from] disconcerted action.
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> ". . . The stealing of horses and other stock, though not so universally prevalent as formerly, is, I regret to say, still common in nearly all parts of

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[27] Heisler & Smith, *Johnson County Atlas* (1874), p. 20.

[28] Junction City *Union*, August 15, 1868.

the state; and what is more unfortunate, the difficulty of detecting the robberies and arresting or subjecting the thieves to punishment is equally common.

"This may be accounted for, in part, by the fact that, in sparsely settled communities, horse thieves may perpetrate what would seem the most daring acts and enjoy comparative immunity from punishment, because they have *concert* among themselves, while the losers and local authorities have no such concert. . . .

"Every county has its sheriff. Suppose it were made the duty of such sheriff to furnish detailed information of the robbery so made (that is, of horses, their size, color, etc., and so of cattle and other property) to the sheriffs and local authorities of the central points, by the most speedy means of conveyance, mail or otherwise. . . . A concert of action like this on the part of the sheriffs of the different counties, aided by those who suffer, would go far, in my judgment, towards correcting the evil under which Kansas now suffers. . . .

"Were the legislature in session I should most earnestly recommend to that body the passage of a law making it the duty of the sheriffs of the different counties to furnish such information, with a suitable reward for such service. The effect of this would be to secure what we now so much need—*concert of action against thieves and robbers.* As it is, I would earnestly urge the sheriffs and the people of the several counties to adopt and enforce this policy as alike essential to private interests and the public good.

—"THOMAS CARNEY."[29]

That there was an effort made to punish theft of live stock by legal proceedings is shown in the first territorial statutes of 1855: "Persons convicted of grand larceny shall be punished in the following cases, as follows: *First*, for stealing a horse, mare, gelding, colt, filly, mule or ass, by confinement and hard labor, not exceeding seven years."[30] This was enacted again as a part of the criminal code by the session of 1859.[31] In 1870 this law was rewritten to include "neat cattle," an indication of the growth of the cattle industry on the plains.[32] An amendment in 1920 shoved horses to second place and introduced a new clause in first place providing for "the stealing of any automobile, not less than five years and not more than fifteen years,"[33] indicating that the horse was no longer supreme.

While some horse thieves were brought to justice, many were not treated so kindly. For a horse thief there were seldom any extenuating circumstances and little time for explanation or prayer. Perhaps there were more attempts to steal a man's horse than there were to steal his property or his life, for the cowboy and the pioneer valued their horses as they did their lives. Often, indeed, a man's horse meant his life. To the settler the horse was communication, transportation, and escape from danger, as well as his means of livelihood. When the horse and man first became associated together in Europe years ago there arose two traditions of horsemanship or horse culture—the one, that of a settled people with whom horses were but one of the incidents of life; and the other, the tradition of the nomadic people to whom horses were vital. Both traditions found their way to America and each its appropriate environment. The "civilized" culture came through Europe to England and found lodgment in the English colonies of the Atlantic coast; the nomadic horse culture came from the Asiatic steppes to Arabia, across northern Africa to Spain, and with the Spaniards to the pampas of South America and up to the plains of the United States.[34]

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[29] *Kansas State Journal*, Lawrence, July 30, 1863.
[30] *General Statutes*, Kansas, 1855, ch. 49, sec. 31.
[31] *Laws*, Kansas, 1859, ch. 28, sec. 73.
[32] *Laws*, Kansas, 1870, ch. 62, sec. 1.
[33] *Laws*, Kansas, 1920, ch. 38, sec. 2.

Kansas, though settled in great part by people from New England, was so influenced by her location in the great plains that her use of the horse was of the second class. In the pioneer days settlements were few and distances between them were great. The telephone was not invented until 1876, wireless telegraphy and the radio were undreamed of; the horse was the primary means of communication and as such was glorified in the dashing Pony Express. Transportation was by horseback or by open or covered wagons drawn by horses. While automobiles have now replaced the horse to a great extent in all phases of work and pleasure and even pushed it from first place in the laws, no thief yet is recorded as being lynched for stealing the family Ford, or even the Rolls Royce, although in 1915 the Anti-Horse-Thief Association extended its protection to owners of automobiles as well as of horses.

On April 28, 1860, the first railroad touched Kansas soil[35] at Elwood, but not for many years could it take the place of the horse in transportation over the whole state. For both short and long distances, work and pleasure, the horse was supreme. In addition to being communication and transportation the horse also meant protection. The plains Indians were mounted, and to combat them the pioneer must be as well mounted. It is interesting that these were the only mounted Indians in the whole history of the moving American frontier, whether English or Spanish. The records of the woodland region do not reveal that the Indians who fired the cabins and scalped the settlers were horse Indians. In the forest region the Indian went on foot, protected by the forests and the thick underbrush. In the West the open country and the horse gave the Indian the ability to strike suddenly and get away quickly, and either to follow and fight, or to flee, the settler must needs be mounted also. Thus was brought into being a new method of warfare known as "Indian fighting."[36]

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[34] Webb, *Great American Plains* (1931), p. 56.

[35] Elwood and Marysville railroad.

The horse was more important as a means of livelihood in Kansas than it was in the East. The great extent of level surface, the treeless land, and the subhumid climate changed the agriculture of small farms of the East to large stock-grazing and extensive wheat ranches of the West, and for these industries the horse was indispensable. Wheat was cultivated by horses, not by tractor. Cattle drives, round-ups, and herding—all parts of the cattle business to which horses were as essential as cattle—are well-known and popular subjects of fact and fiction to-day. A cowboy's pride, and often his wealth, was centered in his horse, and the attachment between the two was great. Considering the value of the horse to the early settler it is not surprising that men flared to anger quicker and dealt punishment more unhesitatingly and harshly to a thief of horses than to a thief of life or property.

Horses and cattle were the property of which the westerner could most easily be robbed. It is rather curious that the number of lynchings for cattle stealing is so small, for we know that cattle rustlers were a menace in the West. Only four lynchings for such robbery are recorded in this list, and two of those were men hanged in 1866 for cattle stealing and murder combined.[37] In April, 1863, thirty-four cattle were stolen in Butler county and driven 150 miles to Lawrence. Even the Indians hired to track them lost the trail at various places. When caught, the thief was put in jail.[38] Yet a man might be lynched for stealing only one horse. A cow thief was not nearly so bad in public estimation, for where a horse was life itself to the plainsman, a cow was merely property. And in cattle ownership the code of the West made a strange distinction between a cow and a maverick which the East could never understand. A branded cow was the private property of the man whose brand it bore; a maverick was public property and belonged to the man who could brand it first. The fact that the maverick was the calf of the branded cow did not affect the situation very much, especially in the early days. There were few cattlemen who did not brand mavericks, but no cattleman considered himself a thief for having done so. Perhaps the distinction also made it hard to determine and prove a man a cattle thief.[39]

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[36] Webb, *Great American Plains* (1931), p. 58.

[37] Joe and Sam Tippe, cattle robbery of Ralph Warner and murder of John L. Shannon, on April 29, 1866.

[38] *Kansas State Journal*, Lawrence, April 23, 1863.

Nevertheless, many organized bands of cattle thieves were punished, and many were instances in which the hanging was not considered a lynching. When rustling of both cattle and horses began seriously to threaten the profits of the cattle business, and when men discovered that the law was unable to cope with the situation, the vigilantes of the range appeared. These were bands of citizens organized to prevent the commission of crime, or to deal summary punishment in instances where the civil and lawfully constituted authorities seemed powerless to enforce the law. These alert, swift-riding posses gave a first offender a sharp warning to quit the country; on the second offense they hanged him to the nearest tree or shot him down if he pulled his gun.

These vigilance committees were bold with their punishment, and even issued warnings of their intentions in the newspapers: "Hunters may fire the grass on the Cherokee Strip, on the Kansas line, if they choose, but the cattlemen intend to hang all who do so."[40] During the Butler county war, which was a specific drive against horse thieves in Butler county, in 1870, the writer of a Butler county history recollects that an article appeared in the *Walnut Valley Times*, El Dorado, stating that: ". . . the horse thieves then infesting that country, and their friends, must go. That they had killed four on November 4th, and four on December 4th, and that they proposed to kill four on the 4th of every month thereafter until all were gone, and that any attempt to prosecute them therefor, meant death."[41] This was signed, "798 Vigilantes."

These protective associations of cattlemen and of other groups were not authorized by the statute books, but so dependent were the citizens upon them that many death punishments they inflicted were hardly considered lynchings and so often escaped the records as such.

The vigilantes of 1860 have their present-day parallel in the county vigilance committees maintained primarily for bank robbery. They spring from the same causes as those of old—the inadequacy of the protective law and officers. The sheriff's authority is limited to his own county; his facilities of men, money and time are often inadequate, and he has had to call upon private citizens to aid him in detection, pursuit and capture of criminals. Out of this situation has grown the vigilance committees of the present, which were planned at a meeting of fourteen state bank associations of the central states, including Kansas. They are organized and managed locally according to varied local conditions, but sponsored by the protective department of the Kansas State Bankers Association according to one central plan. In Kansas the number has grown from one in 1925 to ninety-five in 1932. They existed at one time in 103 of the 105 counties, with a total state membership of 3,900. Each consists of from fifteen to one hundred men, with an average of thirty in a county and are selected by the sheriff and bank officials and appointed by the sheriff for his term of office. The expenses, arms, ammunition, training and operation are financed by the banks; the men receive no salary. They are issued commissions as special deputy sheriffs. While the law recognizes only one kind of deputy sheriff and these are given the regular commission, they have an oral agreement that they are to act only in case of a major crime and are considered "special" deputies. They have the full authority of any deputy under the law. In pursuing a criminal the sheriff shoots only as a last resort and then at his own discretion and on his own responsibility. These special deputies have the same responsibility in bringing in a prisoner. They are bonded to the extent of $7,500 against damages ordered by a court incurred in pursuit of their duty.

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[39] Webb, *Great American Plains* (1931), p. 498.

[40] *Breeder's Gazette*, Chicago, December 22, 1881, p. 82.

[41] V. P. Mooney, *History of Butler County* (1916), p. 258.

Any killing of a criminal by these committees could not be considered lynching. They differ from their earlier counterpart in two ways: they are entirely legal and nonsecretive. Although they are committees of citizens banded together for protection, as were the others, their legal authority and sanction come in the clause which permits a sheriff to commission deputies to aid him. While the status of the old vigilantes might vary, some being more legally organized than others, the status of these is the same over the state, since they are under one central plan. The former were often secret organizations; the latter are not, desiring all the publicity possible. They hold annual shoots in September at Fort Riley when they meet for practice and discussion. They are the old vigilantes with the veneer of legality necessitated by the advance of civilization.[42]

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[42] Information supplied by W. W. Bowman, president, Kansas State Bankers Association, and Neill Rahn, formerly chief of the protective division and head of the state vigilance organization.

When conditions of the country eliminated horse stealing, as it did very definitely about 1877, murder was left as the main cause for lynching, and it holds first place continuously thereafter. Throughout the time from 1877 on, murder has produced over twice as many lynchings as other causes combined. Several cases which have been listed here under murder also include other crimes. Many cases have been accompanied by robbery, rape or torture, and the combination particularly incensed the people. They have been classed here with murder, as being the most hideous of the crimes.

Rape, which holds third place in Kansas as a cause for lynching, brings in the race problem, as here the ratio of negroes to whites is four to one. Again we find the number highest in the period of 1860, with only one less in the 1870's. In 1860-1870 five negroes and one white man were lynched for rape; in 1870-1880 one negro and five whites, the latter committing robbery and attempting murder. The seven men from 1880-1930 lynched for rape have been negroes, but in 1932 the victim again was a white man.

Of the entire number of lynchings only thirty-eight have been of negroes, with the ratio increasing in the later years. In the early days, when horse stealing caused most of the punishment, the negro population was not very great, and those who were here owned or could own very little property. The negro exodus from the South into Kansas from 1878 to 1882 increased the percentage in population, and their recognition as citizens established also their right to break the criminal and civil laws. In 1899 a negro mob lynched one of their own race for murder, when Charles Williams, a negro, was lynched by his people in Galena, April 27, 1899. The records also include a Mexican and an Indian. But the negroes form such a small percentage of the total lynched, a ratio of one negro to four and one-half whites, that the race problem cannot be considered an especially important factor in the state.

The statistics for the United States show that women have been lynched, but none has been found for Kansas. The White Pine *Cone* of Colorado, for January 25, 1884, contained this item: "Not many years ago a man and woman were arrested for murder in Lawrence and hanged from the Kansas river bridge. The woman showed more courage and shoved the man off and then jumped herself." No more information about this was found, and "not many years ago" was considered too indefinite for inclusion here, so Kansas as yet has no recorded lynching of women to her discredit.

Robbery holds fourth place, and there are comparatively few cases where a man was lynched for robbery alone. Many of the cases have been accompanied by attempted murder, attempted rape, or torture, or were the culmination of a series of crimes which incited the wrath of the community. The most recent lynching for robbery occurred in 1884, when four men were killed following a bank robbery in Medicine Lodge. In addition to this crime these men had the reputations and records of desperadoes, although one—Henry Brown—after a career with Billy the Kid, was marshal at Caldwell, and another—Ben Wheeler—was his assistant.

One of the most prevalent crimes of to-day has as yet caused no lynchings. It is due more to our changing ideas of punishment and advance in civilization that we have not lynched bank robbers than it is to any scarcity of them. In numbers they seem to have taken the place of the horse thieves of the 1860's; and as has been stated, these are the two major crimes which have necessitated vigilance committees. The vigilantes disbanded after the cattle days were over and were remembered only in legend and fiction until called into being recently for this other crime which promises to become as serious as horse stealing was. While bank robbery is so extensive, we have not yet dealt with the bandits by lynching, so as a source of crime it does not appear in this list.

These four are practically the only causes which have evoked lynchings in Kansas. Two deaths during the Civil War times have been recorded here as lynchings and attributed to border warfare. Three have had to be listed with reason unknown. The only available account of the lynchings of two negroes in Wyandotte in 1866 gave no reason but simply stated that they were taken "from the calaboose and shot."[43]

Doubtlessly, men were sometimes hanged when their guilt was not clearly established—one of the greatest dangers of, and arguments against, lynching. Mob action is usually inspired by emotional frenzy rather than calm reason and does not stop to weigh the evidence. A negro shot a Mr. Cox in Atchison in 1870, and a mob headed by Mike Clare hanged him. "Cox recovered and some believe the shooting was accidental. Clare left town and never came back."[44]

There are also cases in which foul play has been disguised by the appearance of a lynching. Thomas Reynolds was found hanged in Geary county in August, 1868, with this note pinned to his clothing, "Beware, horse thieves, we know you now." He was not considered a suspicious character by his community and at the time of his death was known to have had money with him, so it was thought possible that he was robbed and murdered.[45] In December, 1885, in Caldwell, Sumner county, Frank Noyes, white, was found hanged, with a note in his pocket which accused him of house burning. It was known that he had several hundred dollars and public opinion was that he had been robbed and hanged as a blind. The jury gave a verdict of "hanged by unknown parties." [46]

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[43] Andreas, *History of Kansas* (1883), p. 1232.

[44] Atchison *Daily Globe*, July 11, 1929.

But in most instances there was no doubt that the right person was hanged, and in two cases the lynched man's victim even came to life to accuse him. Teahan shot Conklin while both were riding from Wyandotte to Kansas City, Mo. "Conklin put spurs to his horse and reached Kansas City without further harm and was cared for at the Gilliss Hotel." He returned to accuse Teahan, who was hanged.[47] In Leavenworth, in 1857, "Baize and Squarles slugged him (Stephens), robbed him and then threw him into the river for dead, but he came to, swam ashore, reported the incident to the police and had the men arrested, so there was no doubt as to their guilt." [48] The narrator of this lynching continues: "A funny little incident happened in connection with this affair. An Irishman was put in jail for getting drunk, and when the mob gathered and broke into the jail the Irishman became frightened and began to cry out, 'Faith, men! I am not the mon!' and kept on repeating it. Judge Samuel D. Lecompte made a speech trying to disperse the mob, but to no avail." [49]

There have been a few instances where a criminal was strung up to be hanged and then released, though usually a determined and infuriated mob brooked no interference. In Lyon county a crowd met the sheriff at Rock Creek and took from him his German prisoner charged with murder of an Irishman. They were hanging him when the limb of the tree broke, letting him fall to the ground. The sheriff plead his case so well that the mob released the prisoner and the sheriff continued with him on his way to jail.[50]

What did the people of the state as a whole think of the practice of lynching? If we may believe the newspapers as reflecting the attitude of the people we receive the impression that, while they deplored lynching as an evil, they considered it a necessary evil. One of the earliest contemporary accounts is the article concerning Squarles and Baize in which the Elwood *Advertiser* says: "Though summary justice was meted out to the wretches, yet public opinion sanctions it as a necessity, and will effectually strike terror into the hearts of the many similar gangs who infest that city."[51] In 1865 the Wyandotte *Gazette* parries the responsibility: "It is only when the laws of the land utterly fail to protect life and property that the people can be justified in taking the punishment of criminals into their own hands. Whether that time has arrived in Wyandotte is a question the people must decide for themselves."[52]

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[45] Junction City *Union*, August 29, 1863.

[46] Freeman, *Incidental History of Southern Kansas and the Indian Territory* (1892), p. 384.

[47] Wyandotte *Gazette*, December 23, 1865.

[48] Frank M. Gable, Leavenworth *Times*, February 9, 1919.

[49] *Ibid.*

[50] *Kansas State Journal*, Lawrence, May 15, 1862.

"We have no censure to make in this particular case, but trust nothing of the like will become common."[53]

"We deplore mob law under all circumstances, but if there ever was a case that was justifiable this is one of them."[54]

"While the mob spirit, therefore, is to be condemned in unstinted terms, the lesson which its prevalence prevails is that the laws on our statute books must be more rigorously, more certainly, more severely executed."[55]

We find such statements in the early years. They condemn the method, but hope for some good as a result.

How different is the comment of the Olathe *Mirror* in 1916. "Johnson county and Olathe feels its shame. It will take decades and decades—maybe never—to erase the blot put upon us by the exhibition of mob violence . . . Johnson county sorrows to-day and will for years to come over the shadow cast on her fair name."[56]

In 1920 the Mulberry *News* is not quite so penitent. "The majority of the people of Mulberry do not approve of what happened here Monday. . . . Yes, it is regrettable . . . but surely it was justifiable."[57]

In 1932 we have this attitude: "While the offense committed was a most dastardly crime, mob lynching cannot be countenanced, and every effort will be made to discover and prosecute the members of the mob. For a mob to take the punishment out of the hands of the constituted authorities results in a breakdown of government, and it cannot and will not be permitted to go unpunished in Kansas." [58]

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[51] Elwood *Advertiser*, August 5, 1857.

[52] Wyandotte *Gazette*, December 23, 1865.

[53] Seneca *Mirror*, April 6, 1877.

[54] Lawrence *Western Home Journal*, June 15, 1882.

[55] *Wellingtonian*, Wellington, September 18, 1884.

[56] Olathe *Mirror*, September 28, 1916.

[57] Mulberry *News*, April 23, 1920.

In these statements is shown the changing attitude of the people. The social conditions which produced lynchings produced also a tolerance for them, and both vanished together. The extension of civil authority into the territory provided punishment of criminals, and its enforcement gave the people confidence to rely upon it. We like to think, also, that an advancing civilization yielded some influence against the practice. To a state which does not sanction capital punishment, death penalty by an extrajudicial method should be especially abhorrent. That which should not be done by legal action of a jury is worse when due to the frenzy of a mob.

Often there was at least a coroner's verdict, if not a jury's verdict, though some, we may believe, had not the formality of either. Usually the coroner reported that the victim "came to his death at the hands of unknown parties." One even went so far as to say, with what could hardly have been unconscious humor, "came to his death by strangulation, through his own exertions and assistance of parties unknown."[59] The coroner gave a verdict of suicide for the death of Newton Walters, in Columbus, in 1895, but he was thought to have been lynched for murder.[60] In 1866, in Nemaha county, one horse thief was shot while attempting to escape, and another was caught and hanged. The newspapers reported "both lost their lives by accident." [61] Quite often there was no action against the crowd. The community, if not actually approving of individuals who took retribution into their own hands, at least declined to interfere.

When there was disapproval against the action, punishment of the mob usually went no farther than the verdict of the coroner or the jury. Rarely was there conviction or punishment of persons who participated in lynchings, owing largely to the sympathy of the jurors for their action. The vigilance committees, who concealed neither their actions nor their membership, acted with the backing of public opinion if not legal sanction. The members of a mob were seldom known or admitted, and no one wanted to know. Quite often the majority of the people of a community participated.

[58] Atwood *Citizen-Patriot*, April 29, 1932.

[59] Ellsworth *Reporter*, January 5, 1882.

[60] Topeka *Capital*, April 4, 1895.

[61] Atchison *Free Press*, March 24, 1866.

In the lynching of Bob Scrugg for murder, at Oak Mills in 1877, the "justice of the peace was one of the posse."[62] At the lynching of a gang of five who attempted robbery, murder and rape in Ladore, 1870, it was said that "three hundred of the best citizens participated."[63]

It is not surprising that citizens seemed to find immediate lynching more effective than court trial. Of four of the Netawaka gang of horse thieves operating in Nemaha county in 1877, the Seneca *Courier* says: "Manley was hung; Rourke plead guilty; Brown ran away, and Harl stood trial and is cleared."[64] Harl was tried in Atchison and acquitted. "The verdict seemed to give universal satisfaction and it is the general opinion that certainly the citizens of Nemaha county can have no reasons to find any fault with the verdict of the jury or the decision of the court."[65] But the citizens of Nemaha county did seem to find fault with the verdict. On March 29, the same paper remarked: "Since Harl was cleared we are ready to believe anything in the O'Brien horse-stealing case."[66] And on May 17: ". . . the horse-stealing case went wrong-end to."[67]

"Within the last eight years there have been something like twenty murders committed in this county, and in no case has the guilty party been punished by due process of law."[68] This editorial concerning Wyandotte county in 1866 does not indicate confidence in punishment by court procedure.

Lack of respect for the courts and the juries is not even thinly disguised by the Junction City *Union* in 1868, in reporting the investigation of the lynching of Thomas Reynolds, which was reported at first in only a six-inch space. There was some indication of foul play in his lynching, and the coroner's jury dragged through several months.

> "One man arrested for lynching Reynolds dismissed without provocation."[69] "Coroner's jury met last Monday to inquire into the death of Reynolds who, it appears, died some time in the history of Davis county. We understand it adjourned to meet again. We would suggest to the commissioners that they employ this outfit by the year."[70] "The inquisition met last Thursday.

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[62] Atchison *Daily Globe*, August 21, 1917.

[63] Andreas, *History of Kansas* (1883), p. 826.

[64] Seneca *Courier*, May 17, 1878.

[65] Atchison *Patriot*, quoted in Seneca *Courier*, March 15, 1878.

[66] Seneca *Courier*, March 29, 1878.

[67] *Ibid.*, May 17, 1878.

[68] Wyandotte *Commercial Gazette*, April 21, 1866.

[69] Junction City *Union*, September 19, 1868.

[70] *Ibid.*, October 3, 1868.

We could not find out what they done [sic] but learn they made no verdict. We would suggest that these owls (we allude to their wisdom) be employed to find out what became of our Democrat party . . ." [71] "The long agony is over. The mountain labored and brought forth a small sized rat. We publish below the verdict of the coroner's jury in case of Thomas Reynolds, deceased. The coroner's bill of costs came before the county commissioners on Thursday. It charges for seventeen days of actual service. A stupendous bundle of manuscript accompanied the verdict. This was the testimony and as it was taken in secret a great curiosity was evinced to see it. Portions of it are rich and entirely street gossip in its character. The question which bothered the commissioners was whether the bills should be paid, or how much of them. The final decision of the jury was that he was found suspended to the limb of a tree by part of his bridle rein, by some person or persons unknown to the jury." [72]

One would not believe that the Junction City *Union* had much respect for the coroner's jury.

Growing public sentiment against lynching was evidenced by acts of the legislature of 1903. Before this time there had been no legislation concerning lynching. Prompted, perhaps, by the lynching in Leavenworth in 1901 and by one in Pittsburg in 1902, the legislature of 1903 passed the following laws, as measures to prevent further occurrences:

"MOB AND LYNCHING DEFINED: AIDING OR ABETTING LYNCHING. That any collection of individuals assembled for an unlawful purpose, intending to injure any person by violence, and without authority of law, shall for the purpose of this act be regarded as a mob, and any act of violence exercised by such mob upon the body of any person shall constitute the crime of lynching, when such act or acts of violence result in death; and any person who participates in or aids or abets such lynching, upon conviction thereof shall be imprisoned in the state prison for not more than five years or during life, in the discretion of the jury.

"ACCESSORIES AFTER THE FACT IN LYNCHING. Every person who shall, after the commission of the crime of lynching, harbor, conceal or assist any member of such mob who participates in or who aids or abets such crime, with the intent that he shall escape detention, arrest, capture, or punishment, shall be deemed to be and shall be an accessory after the fact, and may be charged, tried and convicted and punished though such member be neither charged, tried nor convicted, and upon conviction thereof shall be imprisoned in the state prison not more than twenty-one years nor less than two years.

"PROSECUTION OF LYNCHING OFFENDERS. Any person accused of the crime of lynching or as an accessory after the fact may be prosecuted in the courts of this state by information filed and signed by the prosecuting attorney or attorney-general, based upon the affidavit of some competent and reputable person.

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[71] *Ibid.*, November 7, 1868.
[72] *Ibid.*, January 9, 1869.

"JURISDICTION OF COURTS IN LYNCHING CASES. In case any persons shall come together in any county in this state for the purpose of proceeding to another county of the state with the view of lynching any person, or in any case any person or persons shall purchase or procure any rope, weapon, or other instrument in one county for the purpose of being used in lynching any person in another county, such crime of lynching, if committed, shall be and constitute a continuous offense from the time of its original inception as aforesaid; and the courts of any county in which such overt act has been committed shall have jurisdiction over the person of any member of the mob committing such overt act, and such person may be prosecuted in such county and punished for murder the same as if the lynching had occurred therein.

"LIABILITY OF SHERIFF WHEN PRISONER TAKEN AND LYNCHED. If any person shall be taken from the hands of a sheriff or his deputy having such person in custody and shall be lynched, it shall be evidence of failure on the part of such sheriff to do his duty, and his office shall thereby and thereat immediately be vacated, and the coroner shall immediately succeed to and perform the duties of sheriff until the successor of such sheriff shall have been duly appointed, pursuant to existing law providing for the filling of vacancies in such office, and such sheriff shall not thereafter be eligible to either election or reappointment to the office of sheriff: *Provided, however,* That such former sheriff may, within ten days after such lynching occurs, file with the governor his petition for reinstatement to the office of sheriff, and shall give ten days' notice of the filing of such petition to the prosecuting attorney of the county in which such lynching occurred and also to the attorney-general. If the governor, upon hearing the evidence and argument, if any, presented, shall find that such sheriff used reasonable effort to protect the life of such prisoner and performed the duties required of him by existing laws respecting the protection of prisoners, then such governor shall reinstate such sheriff in his office and shall issue to him a certificate of reinstatement, the same to be effective on the day of such order of reinstatement, and the decision of such governor shall be final." [73]

Other sections of this article provide for assistance of the sheriff by bystanders; the removal of the prisoner to state prison or reformatory; and the aid of the militia.

Since the legislature seemed to realize that the sheriff and his deputies usually were powerless before a mob, it made the second clause of section 1007 a loophole providing for his reinstatement by the governor, if justified after an examination, and in the lynchings which have occurred since then the sheriff has been returned to office immediately. In a case in 1916 "friends got busy in his behalf and after four days had elapsed he was reinstated." [74] In 1932 he "filed his petition and after a secret court behind closed doors the governor reinstated him." [75]

Several states have enacted laws designed to suppress lynchings.

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[73] *Revised Statutes,* Kansas, 1923, ch. 21, art. 10, secs. 1003-1007.

[74] Olathe *Mirror,* September 28, 1916.

[75] Atwood *Citizen-Patriot,* April 21, 1932.

In Kentucky "the penalty for lynching shall be confinement or life imprisonment. The penalty for attempted lynching shall be confinement in the penitentiary for not less than two years nor more than twenty-one years." It also provides for the removal of a culpable officer, as do Indiana and Florida. North Carolina permits the judge of the court issuing the indictment to transfer trial of the case to another court without preliminary appearance of the defendant before him, which allows the accused to be taken into another court for safe-keeping and to be tried there without danger of being mobbed. Minnesota and Ohio have drastic penalties for lynchers and to prevent lynchings. West Virginia and South Carolina give representatives of the person put to death the right to sue in the courts for damages against the county in which the lynching took place, the maximum amount in West Virginia being $5,000.

As administration of the criminal law is in the hands of the several states the federal government cannot deal with the participators of a lynching unless it occurs on government reservations. Efforts to secure enactment of federal legislation upon the subject resulted in the passage by the house of representatives on January 26, 1922, by a vote of 230 to 119, a bill that was known as the Dyer antilynching bill, introduced by the republican representative, Leonidas Carstarphen Dyer, from Missouri. This provided that culpable state officers and members of lynching mobs should be tried in federal courts upon the failure of state courts to act, with sentences of fines or imprisonment; it forbade and penalized any interference with an officer protecting a prisoner from lynching; it penalized an official who failed to do his duty in preventing a lynching; and it penalized a county or counties which failed to use all reasonable effort to protect citizens against mob violence, to the extent of $10,000 recoverable in a federal court. There was much dissension over the constitutionality of the bill, on the point of usurpation of state rights by the federal government, but the supreme court was never called upon to decide. A debate before the committee on the judiciary, house of representatives, gave both arguments:

> "There can be no question that the denial to persons of a class of the equal protection of the laws by officers of or under the state, charged with their equal enforcement, is the act of the state, and that the failure of the state through its officers to give the equal protection of its laws to a class must justify the intervention of the United States under the fourteenth amendment to carry out its guaranty of equal protection. . . . We hold it to be incontrovertible principle that the government of the United States may by

means of physical force, exercised through its official agents, execute on every foot of American soil the powers and functions that belong to it."

The minority report set forth the unconstitutionality of the law:

> "This proposed intervention of the federal government directed against local power, supplanting and superseding the sovereignty of the states, would tend to destroy that sense of local responsibility for the protection of person and property and the administration of justice, from which sense of local responsibility alone protection and governmental efficiency can be secured among free peoples. . . . As a precedent, this bill, establishing the principles which it embodies and the congressional powers which it assumes to obtain, would strip the states of every element of sovereign power, control, and final responsibility for the personal and property protection of its citizens, and would all but complete the reduction of the states to a condition of governmental vassalage awaiting only the full exercise of the congressional powers established." [76]

Thus the growing attitude against lynching in Kansas was part of the trend over the whole country. While the newspapers revealed it in their editorial opinions, they also reflected it in their treatment and presentation in the news columns. In the territorial days and even in 1870 a lynching might be told in four or five inches on the back page of the paper. When Johnson and Craig were lynched in Ellsworth in 1867, the nearest newspaper, the Junction City *Union*, in Davis (Geary) county, told the story in five lines.[77] The same paper in 1868 gave six inches without headlines, on an inside page, to the lynching of Thomas Reynolds in its own county.[78] In April, 1869, the Leavenworth *Times and Conservative*, a four-page daily, related the lynching of George Thompson, in its own city, in twelve inches on the back page. In 1874 the Wellington *Press*, a weekly, told the story of the lynching of four men in six inches, though devoting two columns to the chase and arrest of the same and another gang of horse thieves.[79] By 1916 a lynching had reached the front page, with the Olathe *Mirror* giving two columns to a news article and editorial.[80] Two and a half columns on the front page were given to a lynching by the Mulberry *News* on April 23, 1920. By 1932 the event was blazoned in a full-page headline used by the Atwood *Citizen-Patriot* to start a front-page double-column story which was continued in one and a half columns on the fourth page. From five lines in the local news in 1867 the newspaper space-value of a lynching has grown to a full front-page headline and double column in 1932.

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[76] M. N. Work, *Law vs. The Mob*, 1925, pp. 4, 5.

[77] Junction City *Union*, October 5, 1867.

[78] *Ibid.*, August 29, 1868.

[79] Wellington *Press*, July 30, 1874.

[80] Olathe *Mirror*, September 28, 1916.

Why were lynchings in the early days dismissed with a sentence or two? We find this especially true in the papers of the 1860's when men were hanged for horse stealing. Hanging a horse thief seemed to be a rather matter-of-fact incident, a punishment which a man should expect if he were caught in that vocation. They were often desperadoes with other crimes on their records, and the country as a whole desired to be rid of them, even by drastic measures. Often, too, they were men who had come to the West alone and did not leave families to create sympathy. When horse stealing disappeared in the '80's, with it went an attitude toward lynching which had approached nonchalance. In the following decades when a greater percentage of lynchings were for murder, the murder plus the hanging aroused stronger sentiment. The growing civilization which made lynchings less common at the same time gave them more news value.

It is also in great part due to the changing styles of journalism that a lynching now is given in many more words and details. The early newspapers contained very little local news, most of the space being filled with advertisements, "telegraphic" national news, and clipped matter. An issue of the Leavenworth *Daily Conservative* for June 10, 1862, contained sixteen columns of advertisements, four and one-half on the front page; six and one-half columns of national and telegraphic news; and one and a half columns of local news—a percentage of six and one-fourth for local news. While the early papers might have Associated Press facilities, organized in 1865, to give them national news, communication among their neighboring counties was slower and less certain, and the "local items" and "personal news" which fill our town weeklies and even city dailies were not the fashion in newspaper circles. They filled the front page with plate or advertisements and put local news on the inside or back page. Practically nothing rated headlines, because headlines were not used. The papers of the middle and late 1800's were dignified in appearance. The papers of to-day reflect the era which produces them. These "ballyhoo years," as Frederick L. Allen calls them in his *Only Yesterday*, have produced the publicity agents with their knack of associating their cause or product with whatever happens to be in the public mind at the time, and of concentrating upon one tune at a time.

> "They discovered—the successful tabloids were daily teaching them—that the public tended to become excited about one thing at a time. Newspaper owners and editors found that where a Dayton trial or a Vestris disaster took place they sold more papers if they gave it all they had—their star reporters, their front-page display, and the bulk of their space. They took full advantage of this discovery. . . Syndicate managers and writers, advertisers, press agents, radio broadcasters, all were aware that mention of the leading event of the day, whatever it might be, was the key to public interest. The result was that when something happened which promised to appeal to the popular mind, one had it hurled at one in huge headlines, waded through page after page of syndicated discussion . . . was reminded of it again and again in the outpouring of publicity-seeking orators and preachers, saw pictures of it in the Sunday papers and in the movies, and (unless one was a perverse individualist) enjoyed the sensation of vibrating to the same chord which thrilled a vast populace."[81]

While Allen was writing of the large dailies, the small-town weeklies have been influenced in proportion by this trend toward sensationalism, and have tended to play up an important event in headlines and details. The decline of lynchings and a growing intolerance for them, together with a different journalistic style, are responsible for the changed attitude and presentation by the newspapers.

Figures on lynchings in the United States for the years 1882-1927 show that Kansas ranked 18th of all states, with fifty-five to her discredit.[82] Chronological tables in the appendix say fifty-one occurred before 1904, four from 1904 to 1908, one from 1909 to 1913, one from 1914 to 1918 and two from 1919 to 1923.[83] The Southern Commission on the Study of Lynching in their pamphlet, *Lynchings and What They Mean* (1931), indicate on a map that eight lynchings occurred in Kansas from 1900 to 1931—two in Bourbon county, two in Crawford county, one each in Johnson, Leavenworth, Shawnee and Stafford counties. That they have not given names and dates in each case makes it more difficult to check.

Some of those given by other associations have been omitted from this list as incorrect, since no accounts of them were found in contemporary local newspapers. As an example, the Tuskegee Institute lists a Doctor Herman, negro, lynched in Topeka on May 13, 1901, for "race prejudice." The Topeka *Capital* for that week indicates that Doctor Herman left town but was not lynched. They also list an unnamed white man lynched in Stafford, Stafford county, on May 8, 1919, which the local newspapers fail to record.

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[81] F. L. Allen, *Only Yesterday* (1931), pp. 189, 190.

[82] White, *Rope and Faggot* (1929), p. 239.

[83] *Ibid.*, p. 255.

Three, giving information of date and name, but with place unknown, have been omitted. So these figures will differ from those compiled for the state by other associations, perhaps being fewer, but with the hope of being accurate and authentic.

Several associations, mainly in the South, are making active campaigns against lynching, stressing additional legislation for the protection of prisoners, more certain punishment of criminals, methods of preventing and dispersing mobs, efforts to secure court trials and convictions of participants in mobs, and the growth of public opinion against lynchings through churches, educational institutions and the press.

There has been a notable decrease, with occasional exceptions, in the number of persons lynched since the turn of the century. While the number is declining in the United States as a whole, it is doing so more rapidly in some states, including Kansas, than in others. Northern and Western states have almost completely abandoned lynching since the passing of frontier conditions. Only the Southern states more or less regularly resort to the practice. Perhaps if data for later years only were considered, Kansas would rank better than eighteenth among the states.

LYNCHINGS IN KANSAS, 1850-1932.

(Giving date, name, place and alleged crime.)

1850-1859

1.	In 1850's	Six horse thieves. Rising Sun, Douglas county. Horse stealing.
2.	Dec., 1856	Partridge; unknown man. On Pottawatomie creek, southeastern Kansas. Robbery.
3.	Aug. 1, 1857	Baize; Squarles. Leavenworth, Leavenworth county. Murder.
4.	1858	Shaw; Johnson. Island in Marais des Cygnes river (Franklin county). Horse stealing.
5.	Spring, 1858	Theodore Royer. Shannon, Anderson county. Horse stealing.
6.	Apr., 1858	Claywell. Burlington, Coffee county. Horse stealing.
7.	Aug. 5, 1859	John Squires. Leavenworth, Leavenworth county. Horse stealing.
8.	Aug. 12, 1859	Wilson. Atchison, Atchison county. Horse stealing.

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1. Moore, Ely, Jr., "Story of Lecompton" in *Kansas Historical Collections*, v. 11, p. 478.
2. Leavenworth *Herald*, December 6, 1856.
3. Elwood *Weekly Advertiser*, August 6, 1857.
4. Andreas, *History of Kansas* (1883), p. 605.
5. Johnson, W. A., *History of Anderson County* (1877), pp. 114, 115.
6. Burlington *Republican*, December 14, 1908.
7. *Kansas Weekly Herald*, Leavenworth, August 6, 1859.
8. *Ibid.*, August 13, 1859.

	1850-1859	
8*a*.	Nov., 1859	William Hugh. Emporia, Lyon county. Cause unknown.
8*b*.	Nov., 1859	Price. Hulls Grove, Jefferson county. Cattle stealing.
8*c*.	Dec. 27, 1859	A. F. Bishop. 110, Osage county. Horse stealing.
	1860	
9.	Feb. 5, 1860	John R. Guthrie. Mapleton, Bourbon county Horse stealing.
9*a*.	June 9, 1860	John Johnson. Black Jack, Douglas county. Horse stealing.
10.	July 10, 1860	Hugh Carlin. Bourbon county. Horse stealing.
10*a*.	July 28, 1860	Joseph Gilliford. Council Grove, Morris county. Horse stealing.
	1861	
11.	Mar. 27, 1861	Isaac Edwards. Topeka, Shawnee county. Murder of an Indian.
	1862	
12.	May, 1862	Mexican. Lyon county. Horse stealing.
13.	June 9, 1862	Two soldiers: 2d Ohio cavalry and 10th Kansas. Marmaton, Bourbon county. Rape.
14.	Oct. 1, 1862	Jack Dixon; Stephen Branch. Manhattan, Riley county. Horse stealing.
15.	Dec. 15, 1862	C. Mincer *alias* Charles Spencer; unknown horse thief. Wabaunsee county. Horse stealing.
	1863	
16.	May 18-23, 1863	Alexander Brewer; William Sterling; Porter Sterling; Daniel Mooney; Henry (Pony) McCartney; Edward Gilbert. Atchison, Atchison county. Robbery and torture.
17.	June 3, 1863	James Melvin; William Cannon. Highland, Doniphan county. Horse stealing.
18.	July 26, 1863	Scranton. Manhattan, Riley county. Horse stealing.
19.	Aug. 22, 1863	Thomas Corlew. Lawrence, Douglas county. Border warfare.

8*a*. Topeka *State Record*, Nov. 5, 1859.

8*b*. *Ibid.*, Nov. 12, 1859.

8*c*. *Ibid.*, Jan. 7, 1860.

9. A. H. T. [Tanner], letter to parents, February 12, 1860, from Mapleton, K. T. (Manuscript in Kansas State Historical Society vault.)

9*a*. Topeka *State Record*, June 9, 1860.

10. Andreas, *History of Kansas* (1883), p. 1070.

10*a*. Topeka *State Record*, July 28, 1860.

11. *Kansas State Journal*, Lawrence, March 28, 1861.

12. *Ibid.*, July 10, 1862.

13. Leavenworth *Conservative*, June 12, 1862; Junction City *Union*, June 1, 1862.

14. Manhattan *Express*, October 4, 1862.

15. *Kansas State Journal*, Lawrence, December 25, 1862.

16. Atchison *Daily Champion*, May 23, 1863.

17. *Kansas Chief*, White Cloud, June 4, 1863.

18. Topeka *State Record*, August 5, 1863.

19. James C. Horton, letter written May 22, 1905, in Kansas City, Mo., to G. W. Martin. (MS. in Kansas State Historical Society.)

1864

20. 1864 .... Warren, negro. Garnett, Anderson county. Murder.

21. Feb., 1864 .... Stevens; Stevens' son. Stanton, Miami county. Horse stealing.

22. Feb., 1864 .... Stevens' son. Ohio City, Franklin county. Horse stealing.

23. Feb., 1864 .... Five horse thieves. Jefferson county. Horse stealing.

24. May, 1864 .... E. H. Wetherell. Riley county. Cattle stealing.

25. June 16, 1864......... James Stevenson; Charles Wilson. Stanton, Miami county. Horse stealing.

26. June, 1864 .... Two horse thieves. Franklin county. Horse stealing.

27. Aug. 14, 1864.......... George D. Bennett. Wathena, Doniphan county. Horse stealing.

28. Oct. 8, 1864........... Goisney. Marysville, Marshall county. Murder.

1865

29. Feb. 27, 1865.......... Miles N. Carter. Seneca, Nemaha county. Murder.

30. April, 1865 .... William Bledsoe; Jacob Bledsoe. Greenwood county. Horse stealing.

31. Dec., 1865 .... Walker. Oketo, Marshall county. Robbery.

32. Dec. 18, 1865.......... John Tehan Bartholomew. Wyandotte, Wyandotte county. Murder.

33. Dec. 26, 1865.......... Carl Eden. Holton, Jackson county. Border warfare.

1866

34. 1865-1866 .... Two negroes. Wyandotte, Wyandotte county. Unknown.

35. Jan. 16, 1866.......... Thomas McElroy. Marysville, Marshall county. Murder.

36. Mar., 1866 .... Two horse thieves. Nemaha county. Horse stealing.

37. Mar., 1866 .... Howard; Howard. Spring river (county unknown). Horse stealing.

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20. Johnson, *History of Anderson County* (1877), p. 120.
21. Andreas, *History of Kansas* (1883), p. 606.
22. *Ibid.*
23. *Ibid.*
24. Junction City *Union*, May 14, 1864; Manhattan *Independent*, May 23, 1864.
25. Lawrence *Tribune*, June 17, 1864.
26. *Ibid.*, June 18, 1864.
27. "Illustrated Doniphan County," supplement to *Weekly Kansas Chief*, Troy, April 6, 1916, p. 233.
28. Andreas, *History of Kansas* (1883), p. 918; Forter, *History of Marshall County* (1917), p. 435.
29. Andreas, *History of Kansas* (1883), p. 945.
30. *Ibid.*, p. 1119.
31. Atchison *Daily Free Press*, January 8, 1866.
32. Wyandotte *Gazette*, December 23, 1865.
33. Atchison *Free Press*, February 3, 1866.
34. Andreas, *History of Kansas* (1883), p. 1232; Wyandotte *Gazette*, April 21, 1866.
35. Atchison *Free Press*, January 22, 1866.
36. *Ibid*, March 24, 1866.
37. Wyandotte *Gazette*, March 24, 1866.

1866

38. Mar. 7, 1866.......... Strong; horse thief. Ft. Scott, Bourbon county. Horse stealing.
39. Apr., 1866 .... Two horse thieves. Humboldt, Allen county. Horse stealing.
40. Apr. 13, 1866.......... Newt Morrison. Wyandotte, Wyandotte county. Murder.
41. Apr. 29, 1866.......... Joe Tippie; Sam Tippie. Monmouth, Crawford county. Murder.
42. May, 1866 .... Gulp. On Verdigris river, Wilson county. Horse stealing.
43. May 1, 1866.......... Charles Quinn. Leavenworth, Leavenworth county. Murder.
44. May 13, 1866.......... Peter Baysinger. Monticello, Johnson county. Horse stealing.
45. May 26, 1866.......... Horse thief. Tomahawk creek, Johnson county. Horse stealing.
46. June, 1866 .... John House; H. Long; Billy Jones. Pleasant Grove, Greenwood county. Horse stealing.
47. Summer, 1866 .... Elias Foster. Mound City, Linn county. Murder.

1867

48. Feb., 1867 .... Wm. P. Myers; James Myers; George Myers; Edwards; Gillett. Baxter Springs, Cherokee county. Horse stealing.
49. Feb. 3, 1867........... Jack McDowell. Morris county. Horse stealing.
50. Mar. 21, 1867.......... Eli Mackey, negro; Jackson Mackey, negro; Harry Van, negro. Ft. Scott, Bourbon county. Murder and robbery.
51. May 29, 1867......... John Moran, negro; Daniel Moran, negro; John McGorman, negro. Bartlett's mill, Geary county. Rape.
52. June 13, 1867.......... Daniel Webster, negro; Tom Van Buren, negro. Wyandotte, Wyandotte county. Murder.
53. June 13, 1867......... Negro. Shawneetown, Johnson county. Rape.
54. Oct. 3, 1867........... Charlie Johnson; Charlie Craig. Ellsworth, Ellsworth county. Horse stealing.

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38. Atchison *Free Press,* March 10, 1866.
39. Atchison *Weekly Free Press,* May 12, 1866.
40. Wyandotte *Gazette,* April 21, 1866.
41. Andreas, *History of Kansas* (1883), p. 1119.
42. Atchison *Weekly Free Press,* May 19, 1866.
43. Leavenworth *Conservative,* May 2, 1866.
44. Olathe *Mirror,* May 17, 1866.
45. *Ibid.,* May 31, 1866; Heisler & Smith, *Johnson County Atlas* (1874), p. 34.
46. Leavenworth *Conservative,* June 8, 1866.
47. Mitchell, *History of Linn County* (1928), p. 327.
48. Junction City *Union,* February 16, 1867.
49. Leavenworth *Conservative,* February 7, 1867.
50. Wyandotte *Gazette,* March 30, 1867.
51. Junction City *Union,* June 1, 1867.
52. Wyandotte *Gazette,* June 22, 1867.
53. *Ibid.,* June 22, 1867; Olathe *Mirror,* June 20, 1867.
54. Junction City *Union,* October 5, 1867.

	1868	
55.	"Latter part of 1868"	Indian half-breed. Chetopa, Labette county. Murder.
56.	Aug. 22, 1868	Thomas Reynolds. Geary county. Horse stealing.
57.	Dec. 14, 1868	Negro. Ellsworth, Ellsworth county. Rape.
	1869	
58.	1869	Three negroes, 38th infantry. Ft. Hays, Ellis county. Murder.
59.	Apr. 29, 1869	George Thompson. Leavenworth, Leavenworth county. Murder.
60.	May 5, 1869	Enoch Reynolds. Sheridan, Sheridan county. Murder.
61.	May 12, 1869	Fitzpatrick. Ellsworth, Ellsworth county. Murder.
62.	June, 1869	Tesse; Clark Odell. Shawnee, Johnson county. Horse stealing.
63.	June 7, 1869	C. H. Houston. Wyandotte county. Horse stealing.
64.	June 26, 1869	William Beagle. Shawnee, Johnson county. Horse stealing.
	1870	
65.	1870	John Pierce. Jacksonville, Neosho county. Murder.
65*a*.	Jan. 4, 1870	George Johnson, negro. Atchison, Atchison county. Murder.
66.	May 11, 1870	William Ryan; Patrick Starr; Patsey Riley; Richard Pitkin; Alexander Matthews. Ladore, Neosho county. Murder and rape.
67.	May 19, 1870	Two horse thieves. Sedgwick county. Horse stealing.
68.	June 27, 1870	E. G. Dalson. Iola, Allen county. Murder.
69.	Aug. 6, 1870	John Sanderson. Junction City, Geary county. Horse stealing.
70.	Nov. 9, 1870	George Booth; James Smith; Jack Corbin; Lewis Booth. Douglas, Butler county. Horse stealing.

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55. Case, *History of Labette County* (1901), p. 68.
56. Junction City *Union,* August 29, 1868.
57. *Ibid.,* December 19, 1868.
58. Andreas, *History of Kansas* (1883), p. 1292.
59. Leavenworth *Times and Conservative,* April 30, 1869.
60. Junction City *Union,* May 8, 1869.
61. *Ibid.,* May 15, 1869.
62. Heisler & Smith, *Johnson County Atlas* (1874), p. 34.
63. Wyandotte *Gazette,* June 12, 1869.
64. Wyandotte *Gazette,* July 3, 1869.
65. Case, *History of Labette County* (1901), p. 68.
65*a*. Atchison *Champion and Press,* January 8, 1870.
66. Andreas, *History of Kansas* (1883), p. 826.
67. Junction City *Union,* May 21, 1870.
68. Andreas, *History of Kansas* (1883), p. 670.
69. Junction City *Union,* August 13, 1870.
70. Andreas, *History of Kansas* (1883), p. 1431; *Wabaunsee County Herald,* Alma, December 8, 1870.

	1870	
71.	Dec. 1, 1870..........	Mike Dray; Dr. Morris; Dr. Morris' son; William Quimby. Douglass, Butler county. Horse stealing.
	1871	
72.	1871	Jake Hanes; Guy Whitmore. Salem, Jewell county. Horse stealing.
	1872	
73.	Apr. 11, 1872..........	McCarty. Sumner county. Murder.
74.	Aug. 15, 1872..........	B. W. Harwood. Labette county. Murder.
	1873	
75.	May-June, 1873	Cross. Norton county. Horse stealing.
75*a*.	Aug. 23, 1873..........	Three negroes. Elgin, Chautauqua county. Horse stealing.
76.	Sept. 1873	John Keller. La Cygne, Linn county. Murder.
76*a*.	Nov., 1873	Unknown. Fort Scott, Bourbon county. Horse stealing.
	1874	
77.	July 28, 1874..........	Tom Smith. Wellington, Sumner county. Horse stealing.
78.	July 29, 1874..........	Bill Brooks; Chas. (L. B.) Hasbrook; Charlie Smith. Wellington, Sumner county. Horse stealing.
79.	Aug. 19, 1874..........	L. L. Oliver. Caldwell, Sumner county. Murder.
	1876	
80.	June 5, 1876..........	Number unknown. Rossville, Shawnee county. Horse stealing.
	1877	
81.	Mar. 31, 1877.........	Charley Manley. Granada, Nemaha county. Horse stealing.
82.	Aug. 20, 1877.........	Bob Scruggs. Oak Mills, Atchison county. Murder.
83.	Nov., 1877	Horse thief. On Osage creek, Bourbon county. Horse stealing.
	1882	
84.	Jan. 2, 1882...........	W. E. Graham. Ellsworth, Ellsworth county. Murder.

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71. Andreas, *History of Kansas*, p. 1431.
72. *Ibid.*, p. 967.
73. *Ibid.*, p. 1495.
74. Case, *History of Labette County* (1901), p. 69.
75. Andreas, *History of Kansas* (1883), p. 1063.
75*a*. Junction City *Union*, August 30, 1873.
76. *Border Sentinel*, Mound City, September 19, 1873.
76*a*. *Kansas Daily Tribune*, Lawrence, November 16, 1873.
77. Wellington *Press*, July 30, 1874.
78. *Ibid.*
79. *Ibid.*, September 3, 1874.
80. Topeka *Commonwealth*, June 14, 1876.
81. Seneca *Mirror*, April 6, 1877.
82. Atchison *Daily Champion*, August 21, 1877.
83. Fort Scott *Weekly Monitor*, November 8, 1877.
84. Ellsworth *Reporter*, January 5, 1882.

1882

85. Apr. 13, 1882.......... Thomas Wooton. Wakeeney, Trego county. Murder.

86. June 14, 1882.......... Isaac Kind, negro; Pete Vinegar, negro; Geo. Robertson, negro. Lawrence, Douglas county. Murder.

1883

87. Feb. 1, 1883........... Charles Cobb. Winfield, Cowley county. Murder.

88. Feb. 9, 1883.......... Henry Smith, negro. Paola, Miami county. Rape.

1884

89. Mar. 21, 1884......... Samuel Frayer. Marysville, Marshall county. Murder.

90. May 1, 1884........... Henry Brown; Billie Smith; John Wesley; Ben Wheeler. Medicine Lodge, Barber county. Robbery.

91. Sept. 14, 1884......... Frank Jones. Wellington, Sumner county. Murder.

1885

92. Mar. 19, 1885......... Frank Bonham. Independence, Montgomery county. Murder.

93. Apr. 30, 1885.......... George Mack. Great Bend, Barton county. Murder.

94. July 6, 1885........... John Lawrence, negro. Girard, Crawford county. Rape.

95. Dec. 8, 1885........... Frank Noyes. Caldwell, Sumner county. House burning.

1886

96. Apr. 23, 1886.......... Henry Weaver; Oliver Weaver; Philip Weaver. Anthony, Harper county. Murder.

97. May 10, 1886.......... Francis Lyle. Prescott, Linn county. Murder.

98. Nov. 9, 1886.......... Samuel Purple. Jetmore, Hodgman county. Murder.

1887

99. Jan. 30, 1887.......... Richard Wood, negro. Leavenworth, Leavenworth county. Rape.

1888

100. June 27, 1888......... John Rigsby, negro; Wiley Lee, negro. Chetopa, Labette county. Murder.

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85. Wakeeney *World*, April 15, 1882.
86. *Kansas Weekly Tribune*, Lawrence, June 14, 1882.
87. *Cowley County Telegram*, Winfield, February 8, 1883.
88. *Ibid.*, February 15, 1883.
89. *Marshall County News*, Marysville, March 28, 1884.
90. Medicine Lodge *Cresset*, May 1, 1884.
91. *Wellingtonian*, Wellington, September 18, 1884.
92. Independence *Star and Kansan*, March 20, 1885.
93. Great Bend *Register*, May 7, 1885.
94. Girard *Press*, July 9, 1885.
95. Freeman, *History of Southern Kansas* (1892), p. 381.
96. Harper *Sentinel*, April 24, 1886.
97. *Linn County Clarion*, Mound City, May 14, 1886.
98. Jetmore *Reveille*, November 10, 1886.
99. Leavenworth *Times*, January 30, 1887.
100. Chetopa *Democrat*, June 29, 1888.

	1888	
101.	June 27, 1888	Wallace Mitchell. Syracuse, Hamilton county. Murder.
102.	June 28, 1888	Chubb McCarthy. Minneapolis, Ottawa county. Murder.
	1889	
103.	June 4, 1889	Pat Cleary. Lincoln, Lincoln county. Murder.
104.	June 4, 1889	Nat Oliphant. Topeka, Shawnee county. Murder.
	1892	
105.	Sept. 14, 1892	Hugh Henry, negro. Larned, Pawnee county. Rape.
106.	Nov. 29, 1892	Commodore True, negro. Hiawatha, Brown county. Murder.
	1893	
107.	Apr. 20, 1893	Dana Adams, negro. Salina, Saline county. Murder.
108.	Aug. 20, 1893	Silas Wilson, negro. Millwood, Leavenworth county. Rape.
	1894	
109.	Jan. 14, 1894	J. Green Burton; John Gay; William Gay. Russell, Russell county. Murder.
110.	Apr. 23, 1894	Jeff Tuggle, negro. Cherokee, Crawford county. Murder.
111.	May 8, 1894	Lewis McKindley; W. McKindley. Sharon Springs, Wallace county. Murder.
112.	May 12, 1894	George Rose. Cottonwood Falls, Chase county. Murder.
	1895	
113.	Apr. 3, 1895	Newton Walters. Columbus, Cherokee county. Murder.
	1898	
114.	June 13, 1898	John Becker. Great Bend, Barton county. Murder.
	1899	
115.	Mar. 28, 1899	Henry Sanderson. Holton, Jackson county. Murder.
116.	Apr. 27, 1899	Charles Williams, negro. Galena, Cherokee county. Murder.
117.	Nov. 2, 1899	Wells, negro. Columbus, Cherokee county. Murder.

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101. Syracuse *Democrat Principle,* June 28, 1888.
102. Chetopa *Democrat,* July 6, 1888.
103. Kansas City *Times,* June 5, 1889.
104. *Ibid.*
105. Larned *Weekly Chronoscope,* September 16, 1892.
106. Ruley, *History of Brown County,* (n. d.), p. 234.
107. Salina *Herald,* April 21, 1893.
108. Leavenworth *Times,* August 22, 1893.
109. Russell *Record,* April 21, 1932.
110. Weir *Journal,* April 27, 1894.
111. *Peoples Voice,* Wellington, May 11, 1894.
112. *Chase County Leader,* Cottonwood Falls, May 17, 1894.
113. Topeka *Capital,* April 4, 1895.
114. *Barton County Democrat,* Great Bend, June 16, 1898.
115. Holton *Recorder,* March 30, 1899.
116. Columbus *Advocate,* April 27, 1894.
117. *Ibid.,* November 2, 1899.

1900

118. Jan. 20, 1900.......... Ed Meeks; George Meeks. Ft. Scott, Bourbon county. Murder.

1901

119. Jan. 15, 1901.......... Fred Alexander, negro. Leavenworth, Leavenworth county. Rape.

1902

120. Dec. 25, 1902.......... Mont Godley, negro. Pittsburg, Crawford county. Murder.

1916

121. Sept. 21, 1916......... Bert Dudley. Olathe, Johnson county. Murder.

1920

122. Apr. 19, 1920.......... Albert Evans, negro. Mulberry, Crawford county. Rape.

1932

123.* Apr. 19, 1932......... Richard Read. Atwood, Rawlins county. Rape.

118. Fort Scott *Weekly Tribune*, January 25, 1899.
119. Topeka *Capital*, January 25, 1901.
120. Pittsburg *Headlight*, December 26, 1902.
121. Topeka *Journal*, September 21, 1916.
122. Mulberry *News*, April 23, 1920.
123. Topeka *Capital*, April 18, 1932.

* These figures are footnote numbers and not total lynchings. See page 192 for totals.

Kansas History as Published in the State Press

Fifty-years-ago items published regularly in the *Osborne County Farmer,* Osborne, under the heading "Ancient History in Osborne," are annotated by the editor and related with present-day facts.

The "History of White Cloud," by Mrs. M. E. Zimmerman, was published weekly in the White Cloud *Globe-Tribune,* commencing with its issue of January 30, 1931. The series ran, with a few omissions, until the middle of 1932.

A brief historical sketch of Wabaunsee and a cut of the old stone church which was built in 1861 were published in the August, 1932, issue of the *Wabaunsee County Truth,* Wabaunsee. Succeeding issues printed biographical sketches of pioneers and located points of interest on a city map of 1872.

Letters and interviews relating the experiences of old settlers of Cheyenne county have provided the Bird City *Times* with news items for a regular weekly feature under the heading, "Old Timer's Column." The series started with the issue of December 15, 1932.

The story of three pioneers who settled in Crawford county in 1868 was told by two descendants in the Pittsburg *Headlight,* December 20, 1932. The men, John Waggoner, Stephen Alberty and E. B. Holden, journeyed overland from Rolla, Mo., and took up their claims near the present town of Chicopee.

Butler county in 1869 was described by W. F. McGinnis, Sr., a pioneer, in a two-column article in *The Butler County News,* El Dorado, December 23, 1932. Other reminiscences of Mr. McGinnis were continued in succeeding issues.

The forty-fifth anniversary of the Padonia Methodist church was celebrated January 1, 1933. A history of the church appeared in the Hiawatha *Daily World,* January 4, 1933.

"Early Days of Baldwin Territory Are Recounted by Old Settler," was the title of a front-page feature article published in the Baldwin *Ledger,* January 5, 1933. Joseph Dexter, of Oak Valley, was the narrator. He came to Kansas from Illinois in June, 1855, and witnessed the burning of Lawrence in 1856 and in 1863. His father was a captain under Jim Lane.